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### A History of Saint Joseph's Parish in Salem, Massachusetts: 1873-1948

Laurier Association

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#### Recommended Citation

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# **A History of Saint Joseph's Parish in Salem, Massachusetts: 1873-1948**

**On the Occasion of the Parish's  
Seventy-Fifth Anniversary**

**Published by the Laurier Association  
1948**

Translated from French by  
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Salem State University

Edited with an Introduction by  
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Blood/Duclos-Orsello © 2019



## Introduction

Dr. Elizabeth Duclos-Orsello

Between 1840 and 1930, approximately 900,000 French-speaking Canadians left Québec to find work in New England's manufacturing industries. Salem, Massachusetts was one of their destination points. By the early twentieth century French Canadians were working in the mills of Salem's Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company (The Pequot Mills), as well as in area tanneries and factories, in such numbers that these immigrants from Quebec and their US-born children made up over 20% of the city's population. As they did in other New England cities including Lowell, Worcester, and Fall River in Massachusetts, Woonsocket in Rhode Island, Lewiston in Maine, and Manchester in New Hampshire, the French-Canadians of Salem built churches and schools, started businesses and opened shops, created credit unions, newspapers, and social clubs. Over time they became teachers, police officers, firefighters, doctors and nurses, tradespeople, business owners, professionals and politicians. They held on to French-Canadian traditions while beginning new traditions in their Franco-American families. They changed the city just as they themselves were changed by it. And, critically, it is impossible to talk of the history of French-Canadians in Salem without talking about St. Joseph's parish.

The Point, the South Salem neighborhood surrounding St. Joseph's during most of its history as a parish, was historically the most populous residential area for French Canadians in the city. This was Salem's *Petit Canada* (Little Canada). Its history mirrored similar French-Canadian ethnic enclaves in a handful of other Massachusetts cities and is essential to the story told in this volume. Located between Lafayette and Congress streets (where the Pequot mills sat), and extending from Leavitt to Peabody streets, the neighborhood adjacent to St. Joseph's was home to many mill workers and their families as well as the businesses and services that supported them. This volume focuses attention on the centrality of St. Joseph's parish (the people as well as the structures) in shaping, sustaining and celebrating the spiritual, cultural and linguistic life of French-Canadians and their descendants. Over seven decades, the parish grew in size and import, providing bilingual and classical education in its schools, organizing and launching social organizations, financial institutions and cultural events to assist its members with life in the United States, and offering a rich religious experience that helped generations of French-Canadian families maintain cultural, faith and linguistic connections to their ancestral homes. Written in 1948, on the occasion of the parish's seventy-fifth anniversary, the authors not only trace the growth and transformation of St. Joseph's but offer a close accounting of the place of the parish and its parishioners in the civic, economic and ecclesiastical life of the city, the region, the Commonwealth and even the global church.

### St. Joseph's Parish Timeline

June 1872: Mass is celebrated in French for the first time in Salem for French-Canadian Catholics. Liturgy held in the basement of the Immaculate Conception church.

May 17, 1873: St. Joseph's parish is officially established and parishioners began worshipping in the Seamen's Bethel on Herbert Street.

1884: A wooden church was built on Lafayette Street.

1893: The first St. Joseph's school was opened.

1911-1913: The wooden church on Lafayette Street was replaced by a grand brick church completed in 1913.

June 1914: A fire burns for three days in Salem, destroying St. Joseph's church and most of the neighborhood surrounding it. At this time there were 16,000 registered members of St. Joseph's parish. Over the next few years the buildings surrounding the church were rebuilt, but the church itself was the last among them. For decades, the congregation continued to worship in the basement of the damaged 1913 church.

1917: A new brick rectory ("Presbytère") is opened.

1921-1925: A high school is built and both the grammar school and the convent are rebuilt.

1948: A statue to honor veterans from St. Joseph's is erected in Lafayette Park.

1950: A new International style St. Joseph's church building is completed on the site of the former 1913 church.

2004: St. Joseph's parish is closed by the Archdiocese of Boston.

2013: The 1950 church structure is demolished and replaced by a mixed-use complex.

2015: The neighborhood surrounding St. Joseph's is designated a National Historic District.

At the time of the original publication of this volume in 1948, the future of St. Joseph's parish and of the place of French-Canadians, Franco-Americans and the French language in Salem seemed relatively secure. The size and wealth of the parish (the schools, the prospect of a new church, the donation of a major monument to the city of Salem) and the publication of a parish history in French attest to this. The celebratory speeches and accolades from ambassadors, foreign dignitaries and civic leaders, which you will find at the end of this text, marked a crescendo in the history of French-Canadian Salem, similar to other places in new England. What these historical actors did not know and could not have foreseen were the ways in which the post-war years, combined with the impact of the success of the French-Canadian community itself, would radically transform the parish, its worshippers and its neighbors.

By the 1950s the Pequot mills' operations had largely ceased (as was the case across New England as manufacturing moved south), and along with post war economic growth, the rise of suburbs surrounding Salem, and the opportunities available in other professions and industries for the now well-educated children of first-generation immigrants, meant that the neighborhood which once supported St. Joseph's rapidly ceased to be a *Petit Canada*. The very success of St. Joseph's schools and its leaders' social and financial innovations ensured access into Anglophone, mainstream US life for those members of the parish coming of age in the post-WWII years. Over time, as the generation born in the 1920s and 1930s began to leave the area for other parts of Salem and surrounding towns, migrants and immigrants from Latin America and the Caribbean began to make the neighborhood their home. Many of these new residents were Spanish-speaking Catholics and St. Joseph's remained a key part of the neighborhood for another half century after the history written here was completed. Spanish replaced French as the language of some worship and the schools helped catapult another generation into adulthood. It was only in 2004 that the Archdiocese of Boston shuttered the parish (part of a pattern of parish closings in the early twenty first century) and the church and convent were demolished in 2013.

In 2019 at the time of this translation's publication, the only parish structures remaining are the 1917 rectory and the school on Harbor Street. Neither are in use. But the presence of the French-Canadian past persists in this landscape. Over the threshold of each remaining building is their name engraved in French: *Presbytère* and *École St. Joseph*, respectively. The massive statue of St. Joseph that once sat atop the 1913 church rests securely, purposefully interred on the grounds of current building complex. And, the stunning monument *La Victoire du Deuil*, whose dedication is detailed in the pages here, still stands proudly in Lafayette Park facing the spot where St. Joseph's once stood, with the echoes of the dedication pronouncement ringing in the air and spreading a message of compassion and unity that is timeless: "May it always be an inspiration to the youth of our city and an example of tolerance and equality."

*Note:* There are periodic explanatory footnotes in this text to clarify facts and provide context. The photo captions are translated from the original text.

For more information about Salem's French Canadian heritage, consult: [www.frenchcanadiansalem.org](http://www.frenchcanadiansalem.org)



History of St. Joseph's Parish  
Salem, Massachusetts  
1873-1948

WITH FOND MEMORIES AND  
PROFOUND APPRECIATION,  
THIS COLLECTION OF STORIES ABOUT  
OUR PARISH AND OUR COMMUNITY  
IS DEDICATED  
WHOLEHEARTEDLY  
TO OUR VETERANS  
OF WHOM WE ARE SO PROUD  
AND TO WHOM WE OWE A DEBT OF  
ETERNAL GRATITUDE

THE LAURIER ASSOCIATION  
1948



*This monument was erected to commemorate the service of veterans from Saint Joseph's parish*

## THE PARISH

French people visiting the United States from France are always amazed to hear French spoken by so many Franco-Americans, particularly in New England. It is, in fact, a true miracle. How can it be that so many citizens in what is essentially an English-speaking country have managed to retain not just the inevitable cultural heritage but also the French language, after three, four or even five generations? While it is true that they do not all speak perfectly proper French when it comes to accent, vocabulary or morphology, the simple fact that these Americans know the language of their ancestors so well, that they have held on to their culture, their traditions, their customs, their social groups—all this is truly unbelievable. In addition, they are the most tenacious of the country's ethnic groups. All the others have given up on their language at least, if not on all their culture's art and thought and unique way of life. It seems easy to assimilate into the great American "melting pot"... unless you are of French heritage, or particularly of French-Canadian heritage.

Today, in the United States, there are about one and a half million Franco-Americans who speak French in addition to English. They are mostly found in New England. They are very well organized; they have vast and wonderful parishes with grand churches (where usually only French is spoken from the pulpit), schools, colleges, boarding schools, orphanages, convents, hospitals, parish halls; they have all kinds of clubs, strong mutual aid societies, monuments, magazines, newspapers, bookstores, etc...

And the origin of all of this? The parish. At the end of the last century, hundreds and hundreds of French-Canadians immigrated to the United States, hoping to make some money in the cotton mills and other nascent industries. These French-Canadians stuck together in this decidedly Anglo and Protestant milieu that was controlled by benevolent yet skilled capitalists profiting from the "laissez-faire" environment, and they were soon followed by zealous and forward-thinking priests who immediately established parishes to safeguard the faith, culture, and language of their flock.

This is why there are very important Franco-American communities throughout New England today. The same thing occurred in cities like Lewiston and Biddeford, Maine; Manchester and Nashua, New Hampshire; Winooski, Vermont; Hartford and Putnam, Connecticut; Woonsocket, Pawtucket and Central Falls, Rhode Island; Fall River, New Bedford, Holyoke, Worcester, Haverhill, Lawrence, Lowell, Lynn and especially Salem, Massachusetts.

Around 1860, great numbers of French-Canadians began to arrive in Salem. Because they were hard-working and frugal, they soon became prosperous enough to settle down here. For a while, the Naumkeag cotton mill was their only source of jobs, but soon French-Canadian factory workers and craftsmen found that their talents could also be appreciated in other sectors. Several went into business for themselves, becoming merchants, shop owners, and professionals. In a relatively short time, a considerable number of them acquired property, constructed their own houses, established pleasant homes, and became respectable, distinguished citizens.

Little by little, at first through the process of naturalization and later by birth, French-Canadians became regular American citizens. From the start, they took their right to vote seriously, organizing social and political clubs, and encouraging naturalization.

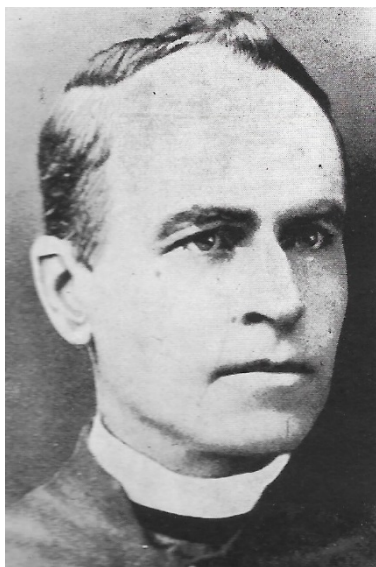
The French-Canadian population in Salem settled mostly in South Salem, in the area called "the Point," where they quickly became the majority. By 1890, there were also many who lived in Castle Hill, where the allure of purchasing an inexpensive home soon led to the establishment of a decent sized neighborhood. At that time, there were already about 5,000 French-Canadians living in Salem.

Their first house of worship was in the basement of the Immaculate Conception church, and parishioners were led by Father Matthew Harkins, who later became the bishop of Providence. He was the one who bought the French-Canadian parishioners' first building located on Herbert Street, formerly used as the Seamen's Bethel; this edifice was later passed on to the Second Adventists. The Second Adventists also moved on and built their own church in North Salem, and the building then became the property of the city's public schools.<sup>1</sup>

That was in 1872. Father Harkins was merely the parish priest at the Immaculate Conception church. It was Monsignor Williams, archbishop of Boston, who had charged him with the ministry of serving the Franco-American community in Salem, a task he undertook with much devotion.

Father Harkins had studied in Paris and spoke fluent French. This is why he had been assigned to the French-speaking group, which then numbered 1,000 souls. He celebrated mass for them for the first time on June 30, 1872, and on each Sunday thereafter at 9:30am. He not only offered them the holy mass, but also preached in their language, French. Furthermore, so that children could learn the catechism in their own language, he organized a Sunday school which he himself supervised. At that time there were about 90 French-Canadian families in Salem.

The Saint Joseph's parish was formally established on May 17, 1873. On that day, His Excellence Monsignor Williams sent Father Georges Talbot to Salem for that purpose. The following year, however, Fr. Talbot had to leave, but during his time here he followed the plan set by Father Harkins. Each Sunday, people gave generous donations, hoping to have their own church soon. Father Talbot wanted to purchase land for this church in South Salem, but the French-Canadians objected. When he



was called away, Father Harkins resumed his role in the French-Canadian community, and after much difficulty with the matter, he was able to purchase the Seamen's Bethel on Herbert Street, near the Phillips School, for \$2,500. In September of 1873, the French-Canadians were so enthused that they immediately raised \$1,500 to contribute to the expenses. Although of a different ethnicity, Father Harkins earned the esteem and admiration of the French-Canadians.

On February 16, 1874, Father Olivier Boucher was named as the priest of the new parish, but he only stayed for a year before being transferred to Lawrence. Father Talbot returned to Salem and stayed for about three years. His successor, in January 1878, was Father J.Z. Dumontier, who was replaced in September by Father Octave Lépine, who was also just passing through. His successor, named on July 13, 1879, was Father F.X. Vézina, who stayed with the parish for seven years.

*Reverend F.X. Vézina*

Under the direction of Father Vézina, many objectives were accomplished in Salem. He bought the land for the current church,<sup>2</sup> for the sum of \$6,200, and it was under his administration that the old wooden

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<sup>1</sup> This building was torn down and the land is now a parking lot.

<sup>2</sup> In 1948, at the time this history was written, the church was located on Lafayette street between Harbor Street and Dow Street; in 2013, the church was torn down and land referenced here was sold. The 135 Lafayette Street apartment and commercial complex was built on the site.



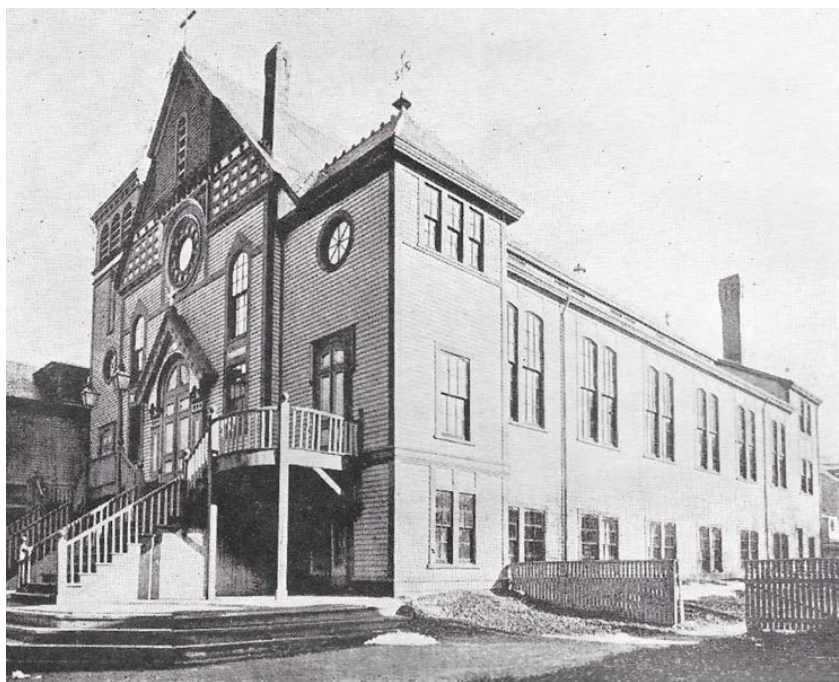
church was built, costing \$15,500. This building was later moved to Salem Street and was destroyed by the great fire of 1914.

Shortly after the dedication of the church in 1886, Father Joseph O. Gadoury was named as Fr. Vézina's assistant. When Fr. Vézina retired for health reasons, Fr. Gadoury became the head of the parish and made amazing progress during his nineteen years of service to the Franco-Americans of Salem. (Fr. Vézina returned to live out his days in Canada.)

With a zealous and extraordinarily active pastor, the parish began to grow by leaps and bounds. By 1886, he was decorating the church and purchasing the rectory. Two years later, he began offering classes on Harbor and Prince streets.<sup>3</sup> There were 3,300 parishioners at that time. That same year, he acquired a magnificent organ for the church. In 1890, he organized a bazaar that raised \$10,000, and in 1893, he blessed the opening of the beautiful Saint Joseph's school that was later destroyed by the fire in 1914. He was assisted by two vicars, Father Levesque and Monsignor J.A. Pelletier, who were dearly loved by the Salem community.

It was when the church's debts were paid off that the church acquired the property of Charles S. Clark, including land on Harbor Street, another house behind it, and a huge barn. This was the entire block, 15,000 square feet of land, on which a school was to be built.

On August 26, 1881, the Luscomb estate on Lafayette Street was purchased and the construction of the church began immediately. The construction was finished in 1883 and opened for worship in March of 1884. In April 1886, the Elwell estate, next to the church, was purchased and the house was renovated to become the rectory.



*The old Saint Joseph's church*

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<sup>3</sup> It is unclear precisely what "classes" these were but could have been religious instruction or early primary school lessons.

The Saint Joseph's church of 1884 was a wooden structure situated a little bit back from the street. It was simple and had a Romanesque style. There were wooden stairs in the front leading to three doors that entered into a small vestibule. Inside, some of the construction was in a gothic style. The ceiling over the nave was supported by heavy wooden joists. Simple wooden columns with sculpted capitals supported the arches. A vast rood screen on either side extended from one end of the building to the other. The organ had been constructed by Professor Wilcox for the Mechanic's Hall in 1861 and was purchased in 1887 for \$6,339. On the interior of the church, the walls were painted a pale color surrounded by darker borders. On the ceiling there were paintings representing the seven sacraments. The altar was very high and ornately decorated. Above the tabernacle, there was a large crucifix and a statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus; on either side of the altar, there were adoring angels on pedestals and nearby was a statue of the holy Virgin and another of Saint Joseph holding the baby Jesus in his arms. Under the rood screen, on the Epistle side, there was a statue of Saint Anne with the holy Virgin and a group representing the holy rosary with statues of Saint Dominique, Saint Catherine and the Holy Virgin holding chaplets. On the other side of the altar, there were life-sized statues of the Holy Virgin receiving the body of Our Lord after being removed from the cross. This statue, a reproduction of the famous Pieta, was very moving.



*The interior of the old church*

The chapel in the basement was dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes. Above the altar, there was a grotto where a young Bernadette Soubirous could be seen kneeling in front of the Holy Virgin. On the wall, in the back, there were tasteful and well-executed paintings of Lourdes, showing the young woman's house, the mill, and the church.

Over the preceding eleven years, the Franco-American population grew so rapidly that when the new church first opened for worship in March 1884, the building was already barely large enough to hold all the parishioners.



There was an inauguration for the school on Tuesday, February 14, 1893, which was a big story in all the newspapers. However, because the population was mostly working class, the ceremony itself was quite simple. There was a mass at the convent at 9am, with several special guests, such as clergy from surrounding towns, the sponsors of the new church bells, benefactors and several parishioners.

This mass was celebrated by Fr. Gadoury, pastor of the parish and founder of the school. Monsignor John J. Williams, Archbishop of Boston, then presided over the dedication and congratulated the parish with much praise. At that time, the parish was worth about \$25,000 and there were already more than 5,000 Franco-American parishioners. During the year ending January 1, 1893, there were 272 registered births, 107 deaths, and 54 marriages.



Construction of the school had begun on March 23, 1892, and the building was designed by W.D. Dennis, of Salem<sup>4</sup>. It was a four-story brick structure. It had three doors: one for boys, on Harbor Street, one for girls, on the same side, and another on the convent side for the nuns and boarders. It should be known that the convent was the old Clark house and in addition to the nuns, it housed about sixty boarding students. The convent had twenty-seven rooms. The religious women were the Grey Nuns of Montreal. At the time of the dedication, there were eight of them and their superior was Sister Desnoyers, who had been the head of the Academy in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The convent chapel could hold 160 people.

On the first floor, or main level, of the school, there was a magnificent basement that could serve as a parish hall for meetings, concerts, etc. Beforehand, Franco-Americans had no gathering space, and they had to go rent a hall downtown whenever they needed one. This basement fulfilled that need, given that it could comfortably seat 850 people.

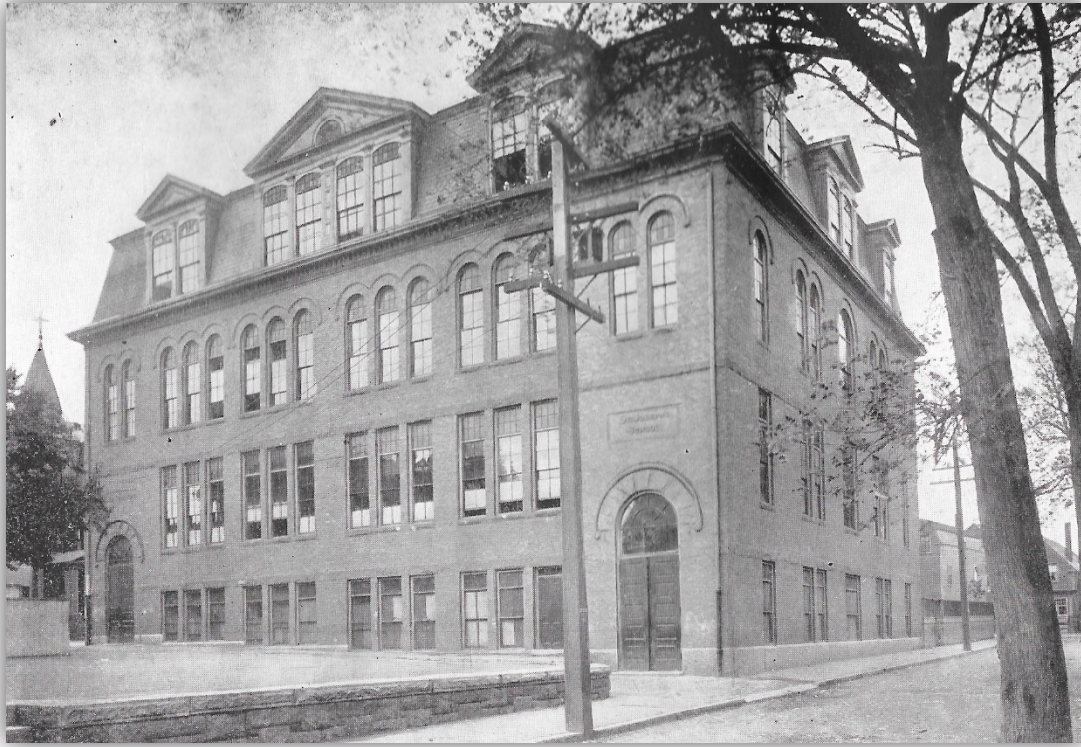
The convent chapel was quite beautiful, and there was even some stained glass. On the exterior of the school building, on the fourth and top floor just below a little spire was a niche holding a pretty statue of Saint Joseph.

The cost of whole site, which included the school, the convent and four other houses for future enlargement, with construction and renovations, was around \$70,000. Just behind the school was a small street owned by the city. Since Fr. Gadoury had purchased the whole block except for that street, the municipal authorities were generous enough to grant it to the parish so that the boys could play there during recess.

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<sup>4</sup> This school was a grammar school.

The second floor of the school was divided into four lovely classrooms with lots of light, measuring 28 feet by 30 feet and able to hold sixty students each. They were furnished with modern classroom desks and everything else needed for instruction. Adjacent to each classroom was a coat room, also with lots of light, and each coat room and each classroom had a door that opened onto the central corridor.



*The first school built in 1892*

The third floor was like the second, but on the fourth floor, two of the classrooms were combined into one to be used for recitations, contests, small performances, etc. There were 11 rooms in all, able to accommodate over 700 students. The corridors were 10 feet wide, and the stairs were also very large and located at either end of the building. The sinks and other bathroom fixtures were of the highest quality available, most were marble, and the heating system was believed to be the best one in Salem.



Father Joseph O. Gadoury was born on July 17, 1851 in Berthier (Berthierville), Province of Quebec, Canada, the fourth son of Alexis Gadoury and Isabelle de Hainault. In 1860, he went to school in

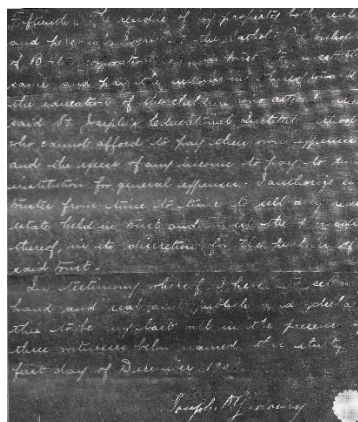
Joliette and graduated from there in 1870. He then entered St. Joseph's Seminary in Troy, New York, and later finished his studies at Assumption College, where he taught. He was ordained as a priest on July 16, 1876. Before beginning his ministry in the United States on August 26, 1885, he completed several missions in Canada. Just before becoming pastor of Saint Joseph's, when he was just a vicar, he established the Saint John the Baptist Church in Lynn, a neighboring city to Salem, for the Franco-American community that lived there. In 1902, he again founded a parish, the Saint Anne's parish in the Castle Hill neighborhood.

In 1903, the Sisters of Sainte-Chrétienne arrived in Salem, from France, to take over for the Grey Nuns at the Saint Joseph's school. While on a trip to France in 1902, Father Gadoury had sold them the school and the convent. The Sisters of Sainte-Chrétienne were succeeded, in 1924, by the Sisters of the Assumption.



*Father Joseph O. Gadoury*

Fr. Gadoury passed away on April 20, 1904, and Fr. Pierre H. Grenier, executor of his will, ensured that \$37,427.73 was donated in his name to the Archbishop of Boston to be used for the education of children at the Saint Joseph's School in Salem.



*Facsimile of the fourth clause of Fr. Joseph O. Gadoury's will*

In the month of May 1904, Fr. Georges A. Rainville succeeded Father Gadoury as pastor of Saint Joseph's parish in Salem. It was under the administration of this distinguished priest that the parish reached the height of its development. Further, in 1910, this forward-thinking priest founded the St. Stanislas parish in Ipswich and Fr. J. Stanislas Vermette, vicar of Saint Joseph's parish in Salem, was named pastor of the new parish in Ipswich. Even further, just before he died in 1920, Father Rainville founded the St. Alphonse parish in Beverly to minister to a group of parishioners who moved from Salem to Beverly after the Great Fire of Salem.



*Father Georges A. Rainville*

In 1908, Fr. Rainville had a new rectory built on Lafayette Street at the corner of Dow Street. The style was beautiful and well-proportioned. In 1911, the old wood church was moved to Salem Street and in its place a superb new Romanesque-style church was built. Large and imposing, the new church was 194 feet long and 87 feet wide. Two towers soared 184 feet up from the ground, topped with crosses. This church was the pride and joy of the parishioners of Saint Joseph's. The construction costs were estimated at \$120,000.

The parish, which numbered 16,000 at that time, was growing and prospering under the skilled and paternal direction of its devout pastor when the Great Fire of 1914 reduced to rubble all of these beautiful monuments to the zeal of the pastors and the generosity of the faithful, leaving behind only charred walls. Further, the parishioners lost their homes and belongings to the fire, and with the destruction of the Naumkeag Mill, most also lost their livelihoods. People said that it was all over for Saint Joseph's parish. But God and St. Joseph were watching over this parish, and as if by miracle, people soon saw the parish reborn from the ashes.<sup>5</sup>

Fr. Rainville, who heard of the disaster while at sea after having just left France, quickly returned to share in the sorrow and hardships of his flock, but above all, with his courage and confidence in the future, to encourage them and to push them into action.

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<sup>5</sup> The Great Fire of 1914 began in another area of Salem on June 25, 1914, moving through the city over the course of a day. It destroyed 1,800 buildings, including the St. Joseph's church, the Naumkeag Mill, and almost every building in the Franco American neighborhood called the Point. Over 3,500 people were left homeless and many had to live in camps on the Salem Common and in Forest River Park until accommodations could be found.





*The church destroyed by the Great Fire of 1914*

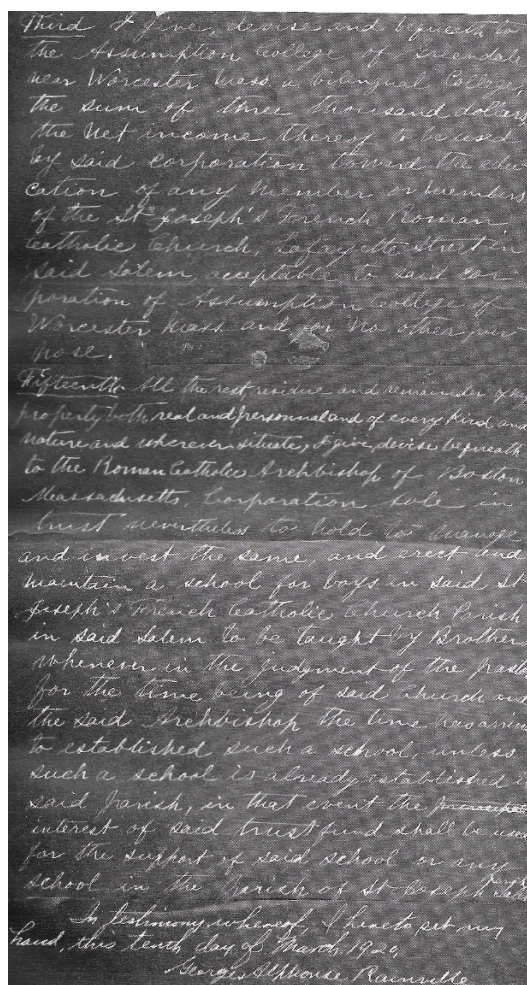
Soon, the basement of the church was restored and a magnificent rectory, even more spacious and beautiful than the one destroyed by the fire, was erected on the corner of Lafayette and Harbor Streets, and a comfortable convent for the nuns was built on Harbor Street. It should be noted that Fr. Rainville was assisted by zealous vicars, especially by Fr. Donat Binette, fondly remembered, who expended a truly prodigious amount of energy helping everyone during this trying time. Encouraged by them, the parishioners went to work with a renewed enthusiasm, and soon comfortable new dwellings sprang up in the neighborhood and peace spread through the homes of our people.

Despite all that was accomplished, there was still a lot to do to return Saint Joseph's parish to its former glory. The schools destroyed by the fire had not been rebuilt. Classes were held upstairs in the church and the good Sisters of Sainte-Chrétienne grew in number to assure the comfort and sanitary conditions required for the intellectual and physical development of our children. The need for a school had become an urgent matter that worried good Father Rainville. Unfortunately, worn down by work and illness, he was unable to complete his work, and on March 23, 1920 he departed this earth. He was 62 years old. The parishioners mourned the loss of their beloved pastor, and his kind soul remained in their thoughts and prayers for years to come. Fr. Donat Binette assumed responsibility of the parish until the new pastor arrived, Father Pierre H. Grenier.

On April 22, 1920, Fr. Joseph H. Côté and Fr. J. Lucien Bédard were appointed the executors of Fr. Rainville's will. The second clause of this document stipulated that a sum of two thousand dollars be given to the pastor of Saint Joseph's to distribute at his discretion among the worthy poor and orphans of the parish.

The third clause states as follows: “I give and bequeath to Assumption College of Greendale, near Worcester, a bilingual school, the sum of three thousand dollars, the total of which is to be used by the aforementioned institution for the education of any member or members of Saint Joseph’s Roman Catholic Church, located on Lafayette Street in the aforementioned City of Salem, who are deemed acceptable by the aforementioned Assumption College of Worcester, Massachusetts, and for no other purpose.”<sup>6</sup>

The fifteenth clause is as follows: “Any remaining assets from my estate, I give and bequeath to the Archbishop of the Roman Catholic church in Boston, Massachusetts, in full and in confidence, for him to keep, to preserve, and to yield a profit in order to build and maintain a school for boys, where instruction will be provided by brothers, in the aforementioned French Roman Catholic parish in the aforementioned City of Salem, at a time agreed upon by the pastor of the aforementioned church and the archbishop for the construction of such a school, unless a school should already exist in the aforementioned parish, in which case, the interest earned from the capital in question should be used to support that school or any other school affiliated with Saint Joseph’s parish in Salem.”



*Facsimile of the third and fifteenth clauses of the last will of Father Georges Alphonse Rainville*

<sup>6</sup> Assumption College was founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption, a Catholic order. It enrolled only men until 1969 and in its earliest years students were primarily of French Canadian heritage.

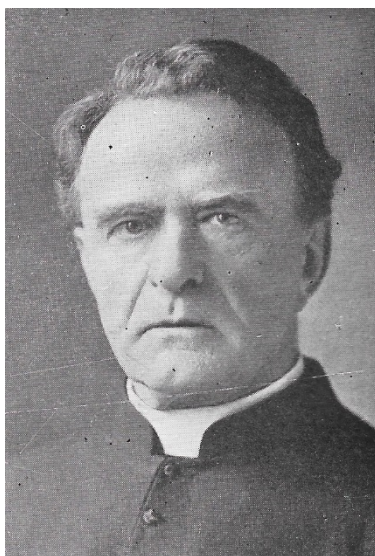
This will was signed on October 10, 1918, and the inventory showed a personal estate worth \$31,679.30, which increased with interest to the sum of \$31,890.44. There were no buildings.

The final document, which was filed in 1939, showed that two thousand dollars were paid to the pastor of Saint Joseph's church in accordance with the second clause, and three thousand dollars were paid to Assumption College in accordance with the third clause.

The amount left for the fifteenth clause, after all specific bequests were paid, included cash in the bank, \$3,973.50 in bonds, and a bill for \$3,523.33 from Lucien C. Bédard, for a total of \$7,496.83. It is doubtful that the bill from Bédard was ever paid since he was dead when the final document was filed. This money would have been used in accordance with the stipulations of the fifteenth clause of the will.

During the several months he served as interim pastor, Father Binette worked arduously and tirelessly to raise funds for the construction of a parish school. By the month of June, \$42,000 had already been raised and this zealous priest made an impassioned appeal to the generosity of the parishioners, calling for them to triple this amount given that the approximate cost of construction was \$175,000. Shortly thereafter, Father Binette became the pastor of the Saint Zepherin parish in Cochrane, and the new pastor, Father Pierre H. Grenier, became the head of the parish. An excellent financier and devoted priest, Father Grenier endeared himself to the parishioners during his eleven years as director of the parish. Under his wise leadership, parish projects began to soar again and the two superb schools he left to the parish remain as a testament to his administrative skill and devotion.

Less than a month after his arrival, he built the school on Harbor Street for a sum of \$142,000. Four years later, the magnificent school on Lafayette Street was built, costing roughly \$200,000.<sup>7</sup> In 1927, Father Grenier renovated and enlarged the convent, transformations which would cost some \$31,000. Despite these formidable undertakings, when he retired in 1931, the parish's debts had been reduced to \$10,000. The value of the parish's buildings increased such that in 1933, around the time of the sixtieth anniversary of the parish, they were worth an estimated \$600,000.



*Father Pierre H. Grenier*

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<sup>7</sup> The school at Harbor and Salem was the high school (St. Joseph's Academy). The lower grades were served by the school at Lafayette and Dow.



Father Grenier had a very special interest in children and spared no expense to insure they received a solid education. During the eleven years of his ministry, attendance at the school increased from 600 to 1,400 pupils. Father Grenier established a high school and preparatory classes in the tradition of a classical education. He instigated the founding of the Saint Joseph's Credit Union, which is a very prosperous organization today. <sup>8</sup>There were over eight thousand parishioners at the time of Father Grenier's departure. Despite his bad health, this good pastor worked tirelessly for the good and the advancement of his flock. He left a lasting impression on all our hearts.

Father J.B. Labossière, the venerable pastor of the Saint Louis de France parish in Lowell, was called upon to be his successor. The parishioners of Salem welcomed him with joy as their new spiritual leader. Many knew him, as he had attended most of their parish events. The unforgettable memory of him on the part of our fellow countrymen in Amesbury, where he founded the flourishing Sacred Heart parish, along with the reverence in which the parishioners of Saint Louis of France in Lowell held him, were guarantees of his goodness and his devotion. Under his skillful direction, the parish debts were soon paid off and all his efforts went into raising funds for the reconstruction of the church. In 1932, he made repairs to the church towers and renovated the basement, which gave our chapel a festive air for the sixtieth anniversary celebrations.

Despite the years of the Depression, the Saint Joseph's parish of Salem remained very prosperous. The sixtieth anniversary census counted 8,356 parishioners, 1,795 families, 1,421 children in our schools. Father Labossière was seconded at that time by two vicars, J.J.M. Tremblay and Paul Martin.



*Monsignor Jean-B. Labossière*

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<sup>8</sup> St. Joseph's Credit union was an important Salem economic institution in 1947 when this account was written. It continued to serve the financial needs of Salem residents under its original name until 2006 when it became the Seaport Credit Union. In 2015 Seaport merged with the larger St. Jean's Credit Union of Lynn, which maintains its Seaport branch on Lafayette St. in Salem.



The great 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations were held on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, May 21, 22, and 23, 1933. They opened, majestically and religiously, with a high holy mass at eleven o'clock on Sunday, May 21, celebrated in the parish church by Father Labossière. The deacon was Father Louis Raymond of Brockton, Massachusetts, who had been raised in the parish, and the assistant deacon was Father J.O. Boucher of Saint Anne's, who had also been raised in the parish. The sermon was given by R.P. Engelbert Devincq, an Assumptionist from Worcester.

The master of ceremonies as Father J.J.M. Tremblay and a team from the Laliberté Council served as the honor guard. The music at the mass was provided by a choir of forty people accompanied by violins and the organ. At six o'clock in the evening, there was a Grand Banquet in the Saltonstall hall.<sup>9</sup>

On Monday, May 22, at eight o'clock, there was a requiem mass at Saint Joseph's church for all of the priests and parishioners who had passed away since the founding of the parish. In the evening, at 7:30pm, there was a very successful theatrical performance at the Saint Joseph's hall: "Ces Dames Aux Chapeaux Verts" (*The Women in the Green Hats*), a comedy in three acts.

Tuesday, May 23, was dedicated to children: a Mass of Thanksgiving was held at 8am for the schoolchildren, followed by an early release and two showings of animated picture shows.

Father Labossière became a domestic prelate in December 1934.<sup>10</sup> The vicars were Father Tremblay, who was very capable and directed the parish when the venerable pastor was ill, and Fathers Paul Martin and Herbert J. Léger.

Monsignor Labossière passed away piously on July 25, 1940, and Father J. Stanislas Vermette was named executor of his will, which according to the fifteenth clause left \$67,784.30 for the construction of a new Saint Joseph's church. He left \$2,000 to Assumption College, \$1,500 to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, \$2,000 to the Seminary in Brighton, \$3,000 to the Franco-American orphanage in Lowell, \$2,000 to the Center for Catholic Charities in Salem, \$4,000 to various communities of religious women. The witnesses for the will were Father Rosario Moisan, Doctor Horace Poirier, and Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier.

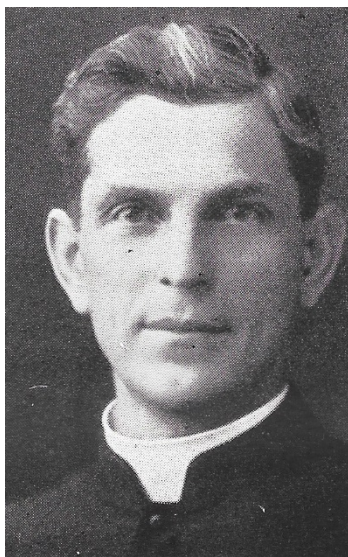
FIFTEENTH: The rest and residue of my estate, whether real, personal or mixed, and wheresoever situated, I give, devise and bequeath to the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Boston, a corporation sole, in trust, to be used for the reconstruction of St. Joseph's Church of Salem, Massachusetts and I direct my trustee to use all the principal together with any accrued interest or income for the purpose of reconstructing or contributing toward the reconstruction of St. Joseph's Church of Salem, Massachusetts.

*Facsimile of the fifteenth clause of the last will of Monsignor Jean-B. Labossière*

<sup>9</sup> Refers to a large hall at the (public) Saltonstall School in Salem located on Lafayette Street a short walk from St. Joseph's.

<sup>10</sup> The basic honorific position of the papal household. It is a rank retained for life and carries with it the mode of address Right Reverend Monsignor.

Father J. Stanislas Vermette, who had formerly served as vicar, succeeded Monsignor Labossière as pastor of Saint Joseph's parish in Salem. Father Vermette was ardently devoted to the advancement of Franco-Americans. One of his first projects, once he assumed responsibility for the parish, was to take on the task of increasing the funds needed for the construction of the church. He appointed committees to lead various groups in order to raise the money. For the first time in years, the parishioners began to work enthusiastically, feeling that a new church would finally be built. It is unfortunate that the work of the committees ended shortly after the death of good Father Vermette.

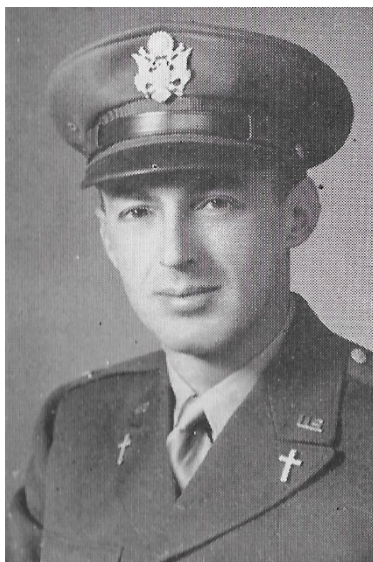


*Father J. Stanislas Vermette*

Under the skillful leadership of Father Vermette, the Laurier Association established a club for boys in the basement of the school on Dow Street. This organization kept our boys off of the streets and gave them a chance to practice indoor sports. For as long as the boys club existed, there was no juvenile crime in the parish. Father Vermette also worked with the Laurier Association to create the Honor Roll monument, which made all our parishioners proud and was the envy of our visitors. In October 1943, Father Vermette, along with the Laurier Association, organized a fundraising campaign for the construction of the church and for a reception for our veterans and the erection of a monument in Lafayette Park. Father Vermette kicked off the campaign with a substantial personal donation. Given his inability to participate in the fundraising due to his poor health, he named Father Georges Chaput as the spiritual director of the Laurier Association. Father Chaput was beloved by the parishioners for his zeal and his tact. And it was Father Chaput who was later named director of the parish during the first illness of Pastor Vermette. The monthly financial reports given from the pulpit by Father Chaput for all parishioners to hear was an innovation that the faithful of the parish looked forward to and greatly appreciated. Father Chaput later left our parish to become the pastor of the Christ the King parish in Hudson, Massachusetts, and it was with sorrow and regret that our parishioners learned of the death of this devoted priest, which occurred on November 10, 1947.

It was Father Vermette's idea that a monument commemorating the service of our veterans should be erected in the park in front of the church. He wanted everyone to know that we, Americans of French descent, had done our part in defending our country. Unfortunately, he died on February 19, 1944, before having realized this dream. As pastor of Saint Joseph's parish, he was assisted by Fathers George Chaput, Paul M. Martin, Herbert J. Léger, and Francis G. Lebrun. In October 1943, Father Léger, our

energetic and well-loved vicar, enrolled to become a chaplain in the United States Army. He served his country in the Pacific with distinction and devotion and conquered the hearts of all those who came into contact with him, no matter their religious beliefs. After receiving several promotions, Father Léger was discharged at the rank of Major following the defeat of Japan. In August of 1947, Father Léger reenlisted in the army to serve side by side with the soldiers he so loved. He is now in Austria, serving with the liberation forces of his country.



*Father Herbert J. Léger*

Father Eli Barnaud, pastor of the Saint John the Baptist parish of Lynn, was selected by Cardinal O'Connell to succeed Father Vermette as pastor of Saint Joseph's in Salem. On May 14, 1948, Father Barnaud resigned for health reasons. He was succeeded by Father Arthur O. Mercier, pastor of Saint Theresa's parish in Dracut.

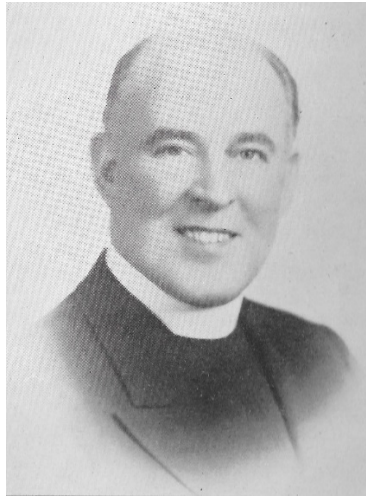
At the same time, Father Roland O. Dion, a vicar at Saint Joseph's parish, was named pastor at Saint Theresa's in Dracut.

Father Mercier was born in Central Falls, Rhode Island on November 28, 1895, son of Louis M. Mercier and Angéline Marchand. He went to the parish school in Central Falls, Rhode Island, then to the Sacred Heart Academy in that city.

From 1912 to 1916, he continued his studies at the Séminaire Saint-Joseph in Trois-Rivières, Québec. From 1916 to 1922 he did his theological studies at Saint John's Seminary in Brighton, Massachusetts and was ordained a priest by His Eminence Cardinal O'Connell in the Holy Cross Cathedral in Boston on May 25, 1922. He celebrated his first high holy mass on May 28, 1922 in the Our Lady of the Sacred Heart church in Central Falls, Rhode Island.

His first post as vicar was at Saint Joseph's in Kingston, Massachusetts, where he served from June to November 1922. He was then named vicar of the Saint John the Baptist church in Lynn, Massachusetts, under pastor O.P. LaCroix, until March of 1929 when he was named vicar of the Saint Louis of France parish in Lowell, Massachusetts, under Monsignor J.B. Labossière.





*Father Louis M. Mercier*

In September of 1937, Father Mercier was named director of Saint Theresa's parish in Dracut, Massachusetts, and in November 1939, he became their pastor. He is one of the youngest priests to have been named pastor of Saint Joseph's, and it is the strong hope of all parishioners that under his leadership a new church will finally be built.

Our current vicars are Fathers Paul M. Martin, Francis G. LeBrun, and Noël Giard.



*The rectory, convent and school on Harbor Street*





*The rectory, church and school on Lafayette Street*

The parish properties include the basement of the church that was established after the fire of 1914, a beautiful rectory located on the corner of Harbor and Lafayette streets, two schools, one on the corner of Harbor and Salem streets where they hold the upper level classes, and the other is the primary school located on the corner of Lafayette and Dow streets, and a spacious convent on Harbor Street. All the properties are made of brick. There is also the Saint Theresa's chapel, which is located about a half of a mile from the church property. On January 1, 1946, the parish had over \$200,000 in the bank. At present, we are unable to say how much is currently in the account because no financial report has been given since January 1946.

There are currently thirty-eight Sisters of the Assumption in the convent, who replaced the Sisters of Charity of Montreal, also known as the Grey Nuns, who themselves had taken the place of the Sisters of St. Chretienne of France. This year, they are teaching 791 pupils in the primary school and 153 students in the Academy doing secondary school coursework.

Saint Joseph's parish of Salem is proud to have given a number of its children to the Lord, whether to the priesthood or religious life. It has also produced prominent members of society, including some who have occupied or continue to occupy important positions in municipal government, in the liberal professions, and in commerce and industry.



## Chapter II

### The Laurier Association

At the instigation of the late Father J. Stanislas Vermette, in March of 1941 a group of civic-minded parishioners met in the St. Joseph's school assembly hall to create an organization dedicated to the well-being of young boys in St. Joseph's parish.

This meeting attracted parishioners from all social classes; professionals, businessmen, factory workers, all demonstrating their concern and devotion to the boys of the parish.

Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier, who had discussed the idea and the group's plans with Fr. Vermette, opened the meeting at which Fr. Vermette, the parish vicars, and several zealous parishioners spoke.

The group unanimously agreed that an organization should be formed to support the well-being and development of parish youth, beginning with a club for boys where the young men would be able to gather in order to keep both body and soul occupied. It would offer athletic activities and books to support their spiritual growth.

Officers were elected at that very meeting and, with very few changes, these same people devoted themselves entirely to all sorts of good works, each pursuing his own favorite causes, with their crowing effort being the erection of the magnificent monument commemorating the service of young men and women from St. Joseph's parish who served in the military during World Wars I and II.

The elected officers were: Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier, President; Alphonse Boucher, Vice President; P. Alcide Pelletier, Treasurer; Zenon A. Lavoie, Secretary; Adelbert St. Pierre, Assistant Secretary; and a Board of Directors including the elected officers and the following: Arthur J. Bouffard, Alfred P. Lebel, George E. Pelletier, and Ernest Therriault.<sup>11</sup>

The officers got right to work, with the support of about a hundred men and women who were then members of the Association and who raised funds to establish a club for boys in the basement of the school, on the corner of Lafayette and Dow streets. In preparing for the opening of the club, the members of the organization were adeptly assisted by Fr. Francis Lebrun.

In June 1941, the club was opened to all boys under the age of twenty-one in St. Joseph's parish. A basketball net was installed, along with several other games, and a library was organized. This club kept the youth of St. Joseph's parish off the streets, and for the first time in many years, our boys were able to

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<sup>11</sup> These individuals were likely prominent businessmen and professionals.

enjoy good, clean fun in a pleasant atmosphere.<sup>12</sup> It is heartening to note that during the time that this club existed, not only were none of our boys charged with any kind of juvenile crime, but also not one of them was ever even suspected of a crime.

The attack on Pearl Harbor and the entry of the United States into World War II put an end to the club's activities. The officers of the Laurier Association decided to shift their energies to supporting the well-being of the girls and boys who were entering military service, to supporting the war effort, and they also began raising funds to rebuild the church that had been destroyed by the Great Fire of Salem on June 25, 1914 and had never been restored.

In the spring of 1942, the Association's membership had grown to include about three hundred people. Their first undertaking to raise funds for the parish was an outdoor carnival held in the summer of 1942. It was a great financial success and the monies were given to Fr. Vermette for the church building fund.

In February 1943, there were about nine hundred boys and girls from St. Joseph's parish serving in the country's armed forces. The officers of the Laurier Association decided to create an Honor Roll displaying the names of all the boys and girls serving their country. Thanks to the help of good Father Vermette, this Honor Roll monument was erected on parish land, located on Lafayette Street between the church and the school. The Association did not have enough money to pay for the Honor Roll, but an officer of the Association contributed the funds needed to create the Honor Roll monument and to purchase a service flag. This magnificent Honor Roll was dedicated on a Sunday, April 11, 1943.

That day, and the evening before, were unforgettable, not only for the parishioners of St. Joseph's parish but also for their many friends and particularly for their special guests of honor: an important group of French officers and sailors from the "*Fantasque*" and the "*Terrible*," two vessels from the French fleet that had stopped in Boston.<sup>13</sup>

The evening began with an official welcome reception to honor the French sailors, hosted by Mayor Coffey and other municipal officials at City Hall.

At six-thirty, at the Saltonstall School hall, a great banquet was held, sponsored by a Franco-American committee, to honor the French. The hall was full to capacity, the dinner was excellent, and the enthusiasm palpable.

The speakers at the banquet included: Mayor Edward A. Coffey; Lieutenant-Commander Henry C. Nichols, representing the American Navy; Major Frank R. Gaw, representing Governor Saltonstall; Commander Raymond Payan, Chief of Staff of the French Navy; Father George J.C. Duplessis, pastor of the Saint Alphonsus parish of Beverly; and Mr. Harold Crain, of the Yankee Division Veterans Association (Y.D.V.A.) of Massachusetts, who spoke to the crowd in French much to the delight of the listeners, who applauded this kind gesture made by a veteran of the first Great War who remembered the hospitality of the French and the warm welcome they gave to American soldiers.

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<sup>12</sup> In its early days the church funded many types of social programs that are funded by the city today; they filled needs for the French-Canadian community when access to other organizations were limited or challenging.

<sup>13</sup> *Le Fantasque* and *Le Terrible* were two of the six Le Fantasque-class large French destroyers built during the 1930s and critical to WWII. Both ships arrived in Boston late 1942 for repairs and some modernization and then returned to service in the Mediterranean in mid-1943.





*Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier, President of the Laurier Association*

Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier was the Master of Ceremonies. Miss Muriel Hallée sang the Marseillaise and the Star Spangled Banner. Representative Edmond Talbot was one of the hosts seated at the head table. Upon invitation by the Master of Ceremonies, three French sailors sang songs that were applauded with enthusiasm.

After the dinner, there was a “Grand March”<sup>14</sup> followed by a dance. During the evening, the development team of the Laliberté Council gave a presentation that was well-received. The members of the Honor Guard of the Laurier Council served as ushers.

The following morning, the official ceremony for the dedication of the Honor Roll began with a military mass celebrated in the St. Joseph’s church by Father Maurice Dussault of Canada, assisted by Fr. George J.C. Duplessis of Beverly as deacon, and Fr. Georges H. Chaput of St. Joseph’s as assistant deacon. All of the members of the Laurier Association, who should be recognized for having come up with the idea for this unforgettably successful weekend, sat in the center of the church’s nave, along with the French officers and sailors and the representatives of a number of military and fraternal organizations. The church was jam-packed, the side aisles were full and so was the space in the back of the church.

Father J. Stanislas Vermette blessed the service flag and gave the main sermon. He welcomed the French officers and sailors, along with the other guests, and thoughtfully described our love for France and our hope for it to be, once again, glorious and free. French and American flags had been placed in the sanctuary and on the communion table. The little parish choir, under the direction of Fr. Francis Lebrun, performed the songs.

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<sup>14</sup> The “Grand March” (“*Grande Marche*” in French) traditionally preceded dancing. Couples would march in two rows, and when they reached the end of the dance floor would link arms with another couple and march in rows of four, then they’d link with another row of four to make a row of eight and so on. Photos of parishioners doing the “Grand March” can be seen later in this book.



After the mass was the official dedication of the Honor Roll, erected in the memory of the 1,005 parishioners of St. Joseph's then serving in the military forces, seven of whom had already given their lives for their country.

The Honor Roll, topped by a golden eagle and decorated with the national colors, proudly displayed the long list of names of our youth who had departed to defend our country, a list that grew with each new day. Seven golden stars indicated the names of our dearly departed. Although it bore no special mark, one of the names on the roll was that of Fr. Herbert Léger, one of our dear pastors then serving as Chaplain in the Air Force at the rank of Lieutenant. The whole parish was proud of him and often bragged about having one of our priests in the service of Uncle Sam.

On the platform next to the monument were the members of the organizing committee, Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier, Master of Ceremonies, Fr. Osias Boucher of Fall River (now Monsignor Boucher), the main speaker, Fr. J. Stanislas Vermette, and the mothers of the soldiers and sailors who had died.

After several appropriate remarks made by the Master of Ceremonies, the Honor Roll was unveiled by Mrs. Marie Vibert, mother of Ovila N. Vibert of the American Navy, the first member of the parish to give his life during World War II.

Father Vermette then blessed the Honor Roll and flowers were placed in front of it. The honorable Mayor Edward A. Coffey spoke briefly and was followed by Monsignor Osias Boucher, past of the Holy Sacrament parish of Fall River, Massachusetts, Chaplain of the 26<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment of the National Guard in Boston, and veteran of the first Great War during which he spent twenty months in France serving as Chaplain to the Yankee Division. He had offered to return to service at the start of the second World War, but his age prevented him from serving.

Monsignor Boucher, after having spoken of the sacrifices made by those who gave their lives on the battlefield and those who were still serving, said that those of us here on the domestic front could not really understand the calamity that was the cause of so much blood and tears. He condemned the carefree attitude that led us to celebrate when we should be directing all of our efforts towards helping as much as possible and sacrificing ourselves so that God may take pity on the world and end this war.

Mr. George Adams then played the horn and Miss Judith L'Abbé sang The Star Spangled Banner beautifully. She was accompanied by her sister, Miss Rowena L'Abbé.

More than a thousand people gathered in the street to attend the dedication of the Honor Roll, which had been donated by the Laurier Association along with the service flag. It was a cold morning, but the temperature warmed up as the day went on, and in the afternoon, under clear skies and bright sunshine, there was a parade more beautiful than any to be seen in Salem in quite some time.

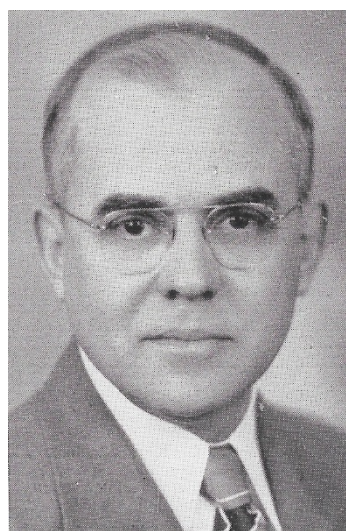
Seven companies of the National Guard marched along with 250 members of the auxiliary police, a number of delegations of civil defense units, of veterans of the Yankee Division and others, with their auxiliaries. The Honor Guard of the Laurier Council, the development team of the Laliberté Council, the guard of the Jacques Cartier Council, the Union Saint Jean Baptiste of Lynn, the Victoire Council of that same organization in Lynn, a number of the members of the Saint Jean Baptiste Society of Salem, brass bands and drum corps, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of the Saint Anne parish of Salem, the Boy

Scouts of the St. Joseph's parish of Salem, the Sea Scouts, cars from the Red Cross Motor Corps, cars carrying Gold Star mothers, all forming an imposing and very unique assembly.<sup>15</sup>

The red, white, and blue colors of the flag were infinitely repeated across the blue skies, on the uniforms of the guards and teams, and even in the banner of the President of the Red Cross, the vibrant color of which symbolized the flame of a devotion that would never die as long as there was help to give and misery to heal. Mr. Alfred P. Lebel was the head director of the parade.



*Alphonse Boucher, Vice President*



*P. Alcide Pelletier, Treasurer*



*Zenon A. Lavoie, Secretary*



*Adelbert St. Pierre, Assistant Secretary*

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<sup>15</sup> In French Canadian and Franco American communities there were a variety of social organizations, clubs and aid societies formed to support the community. Some were mutual aid societies, some assisted with English language learning, some were for arts, music, or shared interests. Each of these organizations helped ease the challenge of immigration and integration and provided services and opportunities to a population that often had no access to the organizations and institutions of Anglophone Salem. Of the long list of organizations listed here, two of particular import were the Laurier Council and The Union St. Jean Baptiste. The former was a fundraising committee of St. Joseph's. Made up of prominent businessmen and professionals, it operated fairly autonomously. The Union St. Jean Baptiste was a mutual aid society with branches organized in many French Canadian communities throughout the United States. Initially independent groups, most later joined the national organization Union St. Jean Baptiste d'Amérique. As of 2019 the inscription "St. Jean Baptiste Bldg Association" can still be seen just below the cornice on the building at 17 Salem Street.

The French officers and sailors were gathered on a platform in Lafayette Park, on the western corner of Harbor Street, to watch the parade. The marchers gathered in front of the rectory of St. Joseph's on Lafayette Street, and the National Guard was on Harbor Street.

The American flag was raised, followed by the service flag of the parish bearing the number 1,005 and seven gold stars. The flags were raised by Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier, after having been presented by Mr. P. Alcide Pelletier and Mr. J. Félix Turcotte. The wind had completely died down, but as soon as the flags were raised, it picked up as if by magic and unfurled them for the hundreds of fascinated spectators.

After the parade, Post 23 of the American Legion invited all of the participants at the ceremony to their Post, including the sailors and the soldiers and the French officers and sailors. Refreshments were served and music was provided by Mr. George Adams and the Legion's concert band. Lieutenant-Commander Nichols, Commander of the Post, welcomed the guests.

These two days of celebrations left a lasting memory in the minds of the public and their hosts. The success of the welcome reception, the banquet and the parade are all due to the organizers, assisted by their very active committees, as these events coincided so well with the dedication of the Honor Roll and the raising of the service flag skillfully organized by Attorney Pelletier and his committee. They all deserve a warm round of praise for carrying out these successful events.

The service flag was flown each day from the day of the celebration until shortly after the death of Father Vermette, which was not too long since these celebrations were his last public appearances. He was, in fact, very ill at that time, and he participated in the dedication ceremony against the wishes of his doctor, but he did it because he not only saw it as an honor but also as his duty as pastor of the parish.

Shortly after the dedication of the Honor Roll, during a meeting between Father Vermette and the Laurier Association, it was decided that the Association would redouble its efforts to raise funds and that half of those funds up to a sum of \$50,000 would be used to organize a reception for our girls and boys in the service once they returned from the war and to erect a monument in Lafayette Park to commemorate the service of men and women from St. Joseph's parish who served in World Wars I and II. The other half of the money and anything above the \$50,000 would be directed to the St. Joseph's church building fund.

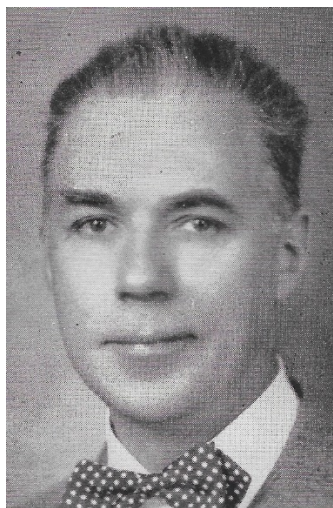
Father Herbert J. Léger having already enlisted in the United States Army, Fr. Vermette named Fr. Georges Chaput as the spiritual director of the Laurier Association.

Fundraising plans were set in place, but due to the premature death of Father Vermette in the spring of 1944, it was impossible to carry out all of the Association's wonderful projects. Nonetheless, the Association held an outdoor carnival in the summer of 1943 and a Mardi Gras party in February of 1944, and in November of 1943, under the direction of Fr. Chaput, a fundraising campaign was launched.

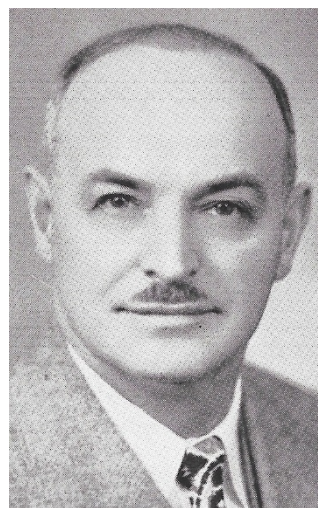
On Friday evening, October 29, 1943, there was a great assembly of the parishioners of St. Joseph's in the hall of the school on Harbor Street to launch the big campaign to raise funds to build a new church and erect a monument in memory of those who served in the military in the two World Wars.

The committee was honored to have as the main speaker the Honorable Emile Lemelin, Judge on the Supreme Court of New Hampshire, because he was known, not only in New Hampshire but throughout New England and the Province of Québec, as a great orator and an active supporter of the Franco-

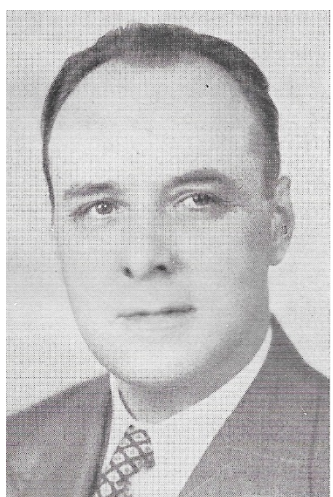
American cause. Present at the event were the Franco-American Gold Star Mothers and one of our young men, Prosper LeBlanc, a veteran who had returned from the battlefield badly wounded after the invasions of North Africa and Sicily. The orchestra led by Mr. Lucien Audette provided the music.



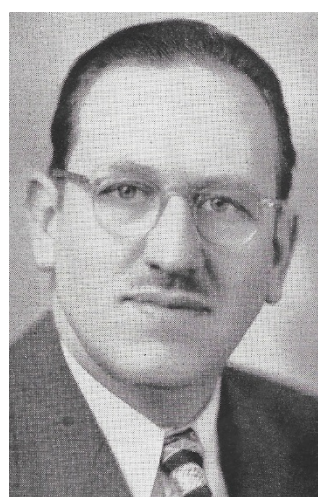
*Arthur J. Bouffard, Director*



*Alfred P. Lebel, Director*



*George E. Pelletier, Director*



*Ernest Theriault, Director*

The goal was “at least \$75,000, if not \$100,000.” It was the second great campaign for subscriptions since the fire of 1914.

In addition to the Honorable Emile Lemelin, the other speakers at that first meeting were Fr. George H. Chaput, who was the chair of the committee, Fr. Maurice Dussault, Fr. Paul M. Martin, and Fr. Francis Lebrun of St. Joseph’s, as well as Fr. Rosario Moisan from the Saint Charles Seminary in Sherbrooke, Québec.

To reach the goal easily, it was decided that since there were 3,000 working Franco-Americans in the parish, each worker should give an average of \$25.00. Some people could give more, while others would not be able to give, but it would average out.

The committee in charge, having Fr. Chaput as chair, included Joseph F. Pelletier, President; P. Alcide Pelletier, Treasurer; Zenon A. Lavoie, Secretary; and Adelbert St. Pierre, Assistant Secretary.

The official launch of the campaign was on Sunday, October 31 and it was supposed to end on November 11, Armistice Day. The slogan for the campaign was: “For God and For Country.” For God, by building him a temple worthy of him. For the country, by building a grand monument to commemorate the great and the many sacrifices of our boys and girls who served during the two World Wars. These young people deserve all the recognition that we can give them. This monument is intended as a tangible sign of our thanks.

The city was divided into 17 sections and each section headed by a captain whose names follow:<sup>16</sup>

Neighborhood 5, section 1, Miss Albertine Pelletier  
Neighborhood 5, section 2, Mr. Lucien Audette  
Neighborhood 5, section 3, Miss Marie-Jeanne Létourneau  
Neighborhood 5, section 4, Mrs. Marion Plourde  
Neighborhood 5, section 5, Mr. Wilifrid J. Poitras  
Neighborhood 5, section 6, Mr. Elisée J. Dionne  
Neighborhood 5, section 7, Mrs. Eugénie Leblanc  
Neighborhood 5, section 8, Mrs. Alice Thériault  
Neighborhood 5, section 9, Mr. J. Félix Turcotte  
Neighborhood 5, section 10, Mr. Georges E. Pelletier  
Neighborhoods 1 and 2, section 11, Mr. Emile J. Thibault  
Neighborhood 3, section 12, Mr. Alfred P. Lebel  
Neighborhoods 4 and 6, section 13, Mr. Arthur J. Bouffard  
Special Neighborhood, section 14, Mr. Edmond Talbot, Jr.  
Special Neighborhood, section 15, Mr. Henri Gagnon  
Neighborhood 5, section 16, Mr. Philippe A. Lévesque  
Neighborhood 5, section 17, Mr. Alphonse Boucher

A banquet was organized on Thursday evening, December 9<sup>th</sup> (1943) by the members of the committee. The meal was served in St. Joseph’s hall and 200 guests attended. The room was well decorated for the event.

The Master of Ceremonies was Mr. Alphonse Boucher and at the head table were: Committee President, Mr. Joseph F. Pelletier, Fr. Georges H. Chaput, pastor of the parish, Fr. Paul M. Martin, Fr. Francis LeBrun, Fr. Maurice Dussault, and Mr. P. Alcide Pelletier, Treasurer.

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<sup>16</sup> These neighborhoods and sections did not correspond to any current divisions recognized by the City of Salem. It is noteworthy that five of the seventeen captains for this campaign were women, some married, some not.



President Pelletier offered his sincere thanks to the workers for their cooperation and explained the plans for the erection of the monument and the reception for the men in service when they are discharged. He explained how this souvenir book would contain the names of all of the veterans of World Wars I and II and also all of the names of the team captains of the campaign.

Fr. Chaput praised the members of the committee for their work and assured them of the clergy's support. Cards with Christmas and New Year's wishes and photographs of the Honor Roll had been sent to all of the parishioners serving in the military, wherever they may be stationed, as "V" letters. Some had already responded, thanking the committee for the attractive cards. The Honor Roll then included 1,200 names.

The evening's music was provided by the Ouellette Sound System. The evening's program ended with the singing of The Star Spangled Banner.



The "V-mail" message sent to those in the military in December 1943 contained the following touching words: "Above is the photograph of the Honor Roll erected by our association on the church property and dedicated to the twelve hundred men and women of Saint Joseph's Parish who are now in the armed forces of our country. Your name is inscribed not only on this Honor Roll but in our memory. We have just concluded a drive in our parish to raise funds to erect a lasting memorial to your service for God and Country. The parishioners and our clergy join us in extending to you our sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year."

Signed (Joseph F. Pelletier), President



At the end of 1943, there were in fact 1,280 men and women from the parish who were serving our country either in the Army, the Navy, the Marines, the Coast Guard, the Waves, the Wacs, the Spars, or the women's "Navy."

The whole organization worked hard and diligently on this campaign, which resulted in a nice total of \$37,852.21. Following is a list of all the people who gave at least \$25 or more:

*Contributions of \$500 or more*

**Rév. J. Stanislaus Vermette  
Joseph F. Pelletier  
Almy, Bigelow & Washburn, Inc.  
Hytron Corporation  
Naumkeag Steam Cotton Co.  
Sylvania Electric Products, Inc.**

*Contributions of \$200 to \$500*

**Conseil Laurier  
J Félix Turcotte**

*Contributions of \$100 to \$200*

Audet, Alfred	Madore, Edmond
Bouchard, Edmond E.	Morin, Elie
Bouchard Evangéline	Ouellette, Napoléon J.
Boucher, Ovide A.	Pelletier, Joseph P. E.
Bouffard, Arthur J.	Pelletier, P. Alcide
Cour St. Octave No. 666 C. O. F.	Richard, Joseph R.
Gagnon, Julie	Simard, J. Noé
Hallé, Murielle	Talbot, Edmond, Jr.
and Marjorie Leadbetter	Tétrault, Raymond
Lebrun, Xavier	

*Contributions of \$50 to \$100*

Audet, Aimé V.	L'Heureux, Donat
Audet, Demerise	Marquis, Juliette J.
Beaulieu, Adélard	Michaud, Martial
Bérubé, Alfred	Michaud, Marie
Boucher, Alphonse	Michaud, Réo
Bras Rail Cafe	Moreau, Wilbrod
Caron, Joseph E.	Morency, Léo J.
Chouinard, Joseph H.	A Donor
Cimon, Alonzo	Ouellette, Laura
Conseil Laliberté	Ouellette, Napoléon G.
Corriveau, Martial P.	Pelletier, George E.
D'Amour, Peter	Pelletier, Noé J.
Deschamps, Ernest H.	Perron, Maria
Deschenes, Joseph	Roberge, Cécile
Doris, Léo	Roy, Clovis J. Jr.
Dumont, Dorilda	St. Pierre, Henri
Gauthier, Sénarise	Thériault, Charles J.
Goulet, Antonio	Thériault, Omer P.
Labrecque, Philippe	Tremblay, Arthur J. M.
Laplante, Anna	Tremblay, Stanislas
Ledoux, Virginie	

*Contributions of \$25 to \$50*

**CONTRIBUTIONS DE \$25.00 à \$50.00**

Allain, Joseph V.	Bennett, Maurice E.
Allain, Méthode	Béote, Edward
Angleheart, Mary	Bercier, Claudia
April, Arthur J.	Bergeron, Zéphirin
April, Ernest	Bergevin, Laurent
April, Yvonne	Bernard, Cécile
Archambeau, Clarida	Bernard, Edouard
Arpin, Emma	Bernard, Frank
Arpin, Noé	Bernard, Napoléon
La Société Des Artisans No. 17	Bernier, Arthur, Mrs.
Audet, Germaine	Bérubé, Alberta C.
Audet, Irene M.	Bérubé, Adrien A.
Audet, Joseph Mrs.	Bérubé, Albert
Audet, Joseph E.	Bérubé, Armand E.
Auger, Léon J.	Bérubé, Béatrice
Auger, Norman R.	Bérubé, Donat
Banville, Albert	Bérubé, Lorenzo
Banville, Alexander	Bérubé, Francis
Banville, Cécile	Bérubé, Rosario V.
Banville, Charles E.	Birmingham, Laura
Banville, Edmond	Blais, Anselme
Banville, Emile O.	Blanchette, George
Banville, Honoré A.	Blanchette, Jean
Banville, Léoda	Blanchette, Léon S.
Banville, Phoébé	Blanchette, Rose A.
Banville, René	Bilodeau, John
Banville, Rita	Bois, Thomas P.
Barrette, Duleine Mrs.	Boisvert, Eléanor
Barron, Peter B.	Bossé, Arsène
Beaudoin, Anthony	Bossé, Lydia
Beaulieu, Albert	Bouchard, Artistide J.
Beaulieu, Diana	Bouchard Arthur A.
Beaulieu, Euclid	Bouchard, Blanche
Beaulieu, Florence	Bouchard, Desneiges
Beaulieu, George H.	Bouchard, John B.
Beaulieu, Joseph	Bouchard, Joseph J.
Beaulieu, Joseph A.	Bouchard, Louis Phillip
Beaulieu, Joséphine	Bouchard, Roland
Beaulieu, Lucien	Boucher, Edouard
Beaupré, Amédé	Boucher, Octave
Beaupré, J. Adélar	Boucher, René A.
Beaupré, Jules	Boudreault, Arthur
Beaupré, Omer C.	Boudreault, Raoul R.
Beauregard, Donat	Boudreault, Viateur
Bédard, Annie	Bouffard, Joseph E.
Bélanger, Alphonse	Boulay, Alfred
Bélanger, Arthur	Boulay, Clara
Bélanger, Eva	Bourgault, E. René
Bélanger, Gracia	Bourgault, Joseph L.
Bélanger, Joseph R.	Bourgeault, Marie R.
Bélanger, Lillian	Bourgeault, Thomas
Belleau, Leonnette C.	Bourque, Félix
Belleau, Rébecca	Bourque, Frank
Belleau, Roger	Bourque, Joseph
Belleau, Théophile	Bousquet, Juliette S.



## LISTE DE CONTRIBUTEURS (Suite)

Boyer, Alexander	Daly, Ernest
Boyer, Yvonne	D'Amour, Elizabeth C.
Brault, Joseph E.	Danjou, Adéland
Brisbois, Léon	Daudelin, Louis
Brunelle, Joseph E.	David, Arthur G.
Bureau, Henri L.	Delande, Claude F. Jr.
Burns, Georgiana M.	Delande, Evalide
Cadorette, Thomas J.	Delande, Ovila
Canadian Klondike Club	Demers, Emile R.
Caron, Léo	Demers, Oscar J.
Caron, Louis A.	Demers, Oscar
Caron, Roland L.	Demers, Samuel
Caron, Saluste M.	D'Entremont, Jacques
Caron, Stanislas	DeSallier, Léone
Castonguay, Alfred	Deschamps, David Jr.
Chaput, Rev. George	Deschamps, Phillippe L.
Chaput, Louis	Deschamps, Yvonne
Charbonneau, Cora	Deschene, Ernest
Charbonneau, Délia	Deschenes, Rose
Charboneau, Malvina	Desjardins, Alice
Charbonneau, Wilfrid	Desjardins, Auguste, Jr.
Charette, Joseph N.	Desjardins, René
Charron, Célestin	Devoe, Emile
Chaurette, Charles	Devoe, George H.
Chouinard, Charles	Dion, Alfred
Chouinard, J. Ernest	Dion, Joseph A.
Chouinard, Mabel	Dion, Frédéric J.
Cimon, Raoul	Dion, Ludger
Claveau, Armand	Dion, René N.
Claveau, Joseph G.	Dionne, Charles E.
Cloutier, Alphonse	Dionne, Elisha J.
Cloutier, Raoul A.	Dionne, Gérard J.
Cloutier, Roland T.	Dionne, Napoleon P. R.
Cloutier, Zélia	Dionne, Simone
Collin, Clarina	Dionne, Tancrede
Collin, Philippe	Donohue, Eugénie
Collin, Raymond C.	Drouin, Emilien
Cormier, Adolphe	Dubé, Aimé
Cormier, Barbara	Dubé, Alma M.
Cormier, Olivier	Dubé, Bertha
Cormier, Sam O.	Dubé, John
Corneau, Narcisse D.	Dubé, Pierre
Côté, Arthur	Dubé, Timothé
Côté, Ernest J.	Dufour, Léone
Côté, Dr. Gérard	Dumais, John J.
Côté, Girard	Dumas, Arsène
Côté, Joseph H.	Dumas, Joseph A.
Côté, Laurette	Dumas, Phillip J.
Côté, Magloire	Dumas, Rose A.
Côté, Omer	Dumont, Léocadie
Courtemanche, Adélaide	Durand, Thomas
Courtemanche, Victor	Dussault, Maurice Rév.
Daffe, George	Ennis, Joseph N.
Dallaire, Alice	Eno, Raymond L.
Dallaire, Joseph	

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Fecteau, Joseph N.	Gauthier, René
Filipiak, Cécile	Genest, Roger L.
Foisy, Léon	Ginkus, Andrew Mrs.
Foley, Richard E.	Girard, Alma
Fontaine, Henry	Girard, Lucien
Fortin, Josephat	Girard, Lucy
Fournier, J. Eugène	Girard, Ludger
Fournier, Joseph R.	Girard, René E.
Fournier, Rose and Marion	Godbout, George
Francoeur, Emile	Godin, Albert
Fraser, John T.	Gosselin, Charles
Fraser, Joseph W.	Goudreau, Albina
Fugère, Phillippe	Goudreau, Almanzard T.
Full, Antoinette L.	Goulet, Raymond
Gagné, Alphonse L.	Gourdeau, Lillian
Gagné, Archie	Grégoire, Joseph
Gagné, George H.	Grenier, Alfred
Gagné, Joseph A.	Grenier, Eléanor
Gagné, Marie L.	Guérrette, Auguste J.
Gagné, Mériilda	Guérette, Joseph A.
Gagné, William	Guy, J. Abel
Gagnon, Aimé	Hallée, Humbert A.
Gagnon, Albert	Harrison, Frank
Gagnon, Alice	Harvey, Joseph
Gagnon, Anita	Hébert, Léo J.
Gagnon, Clément A.	Hébert, Marie
Gagnon, Elise	Howard, Béatrice M.
Gagnon, Elisée	Imbault, Eva
Gagnon, Emérentiene L.	Jalbert, Albert
Gagnon, Evana A.	Jalbert, Emile G.
Gagnon, Henry	Jalbert, Ernest
Gagnon, Joseph	Jalbert, Lorenzo
Gagnon, Joseph A.	Jean, Alfred O.
Gagnon, Joseph	Jean, Thomas
Gagnon, Juliette E.	Jeffrey, Albert
Gagnon, Laura	Jeffrey, Léona
Gagnon, Louise	Jeffrey, Raymond
Gagnon, Madeleine C.	Jodoin, Alfred E.
Gagnon, Napoleon F.	Jodoin, Joseph D.
Gagnon, Ovila J.	Julien, Alphonsine
Gagnon, Théodore J.	Julien, Emmanuel B.
Gagnon, Wilfred	Julien, Roland G.
Gagnon, Wilfrid, J.	Kane, Dr. Francis
Gallant, Lawrence	Kendall, Victor
Gallant, M. Mrs.	L'Abbée, Charlotte Y.
Gaudreault, Adélard	L'Abbée, Eva
Gaudreault, Alfred	Labrecque, Arthur E.
Gaudreault, Armand	Labrecque, George
Gaudreault, Eugène	Labrecque, Léda
Gaudreault, Germaine C.	Labrecque, Léopold
Gaudreault, Médéric	Labrie, Albert
Gauthier, Aurore	Lachance, Henry W.
Gauthier, Henry	LaChapelle, Albert
Gauthier, Joseph O.	Lambert, Louis J.
Gauthier, Philip	Lamontagne, François

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Lamontagne, Ida	LeBlanc, J. Arthur
LaMontagne, Rosaire	Leblanc, Jeannette
Lamontagne, Thérèse G.	LeBlanc, Joseph
Landy, John B.	Leblanc, Joseph M.
Langille, Ernest	Lebrun, Rosario
Laplante, Joseph	Lebrun, William
Lapointe, Dominique	Leclerc, Bella
LaPointe, Lucien	Leclerc, Charles J.
Lapointe, William	Leclerc, Christine
Laporte, Arthur	Leclerc, Ernest
Laporte, Corine	Leclerc, Onésime
Laporte, Irène M.	Lefrancois, Paul
Larivée, Alice W.	Ledoux, Albert J.
Larivée, Marie	Ledoux, Yvette G.
Larivée, Rose	Lefrançois, Arthur
Larocque, Armand	Léger, Viola
Larocque, Joseph L.	Lemelin, Elizabeth
Larocque, Richard	Lemelin, Wilfred J.
Larocque, Wilfred G.	Lemieux, Emile
La Rue, Louis	Letarte, Adjutor
Latulippe, Joseph	Létourneau, Joseph H.
Latulippe, Louis	Levasseur, Annette
Latulippe, Mary B.	Levasseur, Antoine
Lauzon, Raymond	Levasseur, Donat
LaVallée, Placide	Levasseur, Joseph
LaVallée, Rosario	Levasseur, Louis
Lavoie, Albert J.	Levasseur, Lucien
Lavoie, Anthime J.	Levasseur, Philippe
Lavoie, Cécile	Lévesque, Arthur
Lavoie, Joseph E.	Lévesque, Alfred
Lavoie, Léna	Lévesque, François
Lavoie, Léopold	Lévesque, François X.
Lavoie, Moise	Lévesque, Marcel Mrs.
Lavoie, René E.	Lévesque, Philip A.
Lavoie, Zénon A.	L'Heureux, Emma Y.
Lebel, Adélard	L'Heureux, Gérard A.
Lebel, Aimé J.	L'Heureux, Malvina
Lebel, Alfred P.	L'Heureux, Patricia
Lebel, Joseph C.	L'Heureux, Paul
LeBlanc, A. E.	L'Heureux, Raoul
Leblanc, Béatrice	Longval, Aurélie
Leblanc, Clifford	Lord, Loraine
Leblanc, Lucie M.	Lussier, Alexis
Leblanc, Thaddie	Lussier, Fernand and George
Leblanc, Théodore	Lussier, Nalbert R.
LeBoeuf, Joseph X.	Madore, Albert J.
Lebrun, Adrien J. H.	Madore, Ernest J.
LeBrun, Albert J.	Mahoney, Priscilla
LeBrun, Alfred	Mailhoit, Alice
LeBrun, Rév. François	Mailly, Charles J.
LeBrun, Juliana	Marcheterre, Jules
LeBlanc, Omer	Marcorelle, Edmond
LeBlanc, Edmond	Marquis, Adélard
LeBlanc, George W.	Marquis, Albert
LeBlanc, Hector	Marquis, Jean B.

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Marquis, Ludger L.	Normand Marie E.
Marquis, Oménil Jr.	Normandeau, Léonie
Martel, Joseph J.	O'Keefe, James
Martel, Oscar C.	Ouellette, Alphonse
Martin, Cléophas	Ouellette, Amédée
Martin, Rév. Paul M.	Ouellette, Eugénie
Martineau, Alphéodor M.	Ouellette, Louis A.
Martineau, Henry	Ouellette, Oscar
Massé, Joseph	Ouellette, Régina
Melanson, Albert O.	Ouellette, Mrs. J. B.
Melanson, Anselme	Ouellette, Régina
Mercier, Célanire	Ouellette, René J.
Mercier, Eugénie	Ouellette, Rita
Michaud, Aimé	Paquette, Hermaine
Michaud, Alfred	Paquin, Francis H.
Michaud, Alfred	Paré, Joseph W.
Michaud, Arthur	Paré, Lucien
Michaud, Charles	Parideau, Joseph N.
Michaud, Ernest	Patrie, Louis J.
Michaud, Dr. Gérard N.	Pelletier, Adélard
Michaud, Gérard	Pelletier, Alma
Michaud, Jules	Pelletier, Amanda
Michaud, Lionel J.	Pelletier, Anna
Michaud, Lionel	Pelletier, Anna W.
Michaud, Marie L.	Pelletier, Albert J.
Michaud, Oscar	Pelletier, Alphonse
Michaud, Ovide A.	Pelletier, Arthur
Michaud, Roméo	Pelletier, Delia
Michaud, Rosario	Pelletier, Diana
Moreau, Marie A.	Pelletier, Edward
Morency, Vézina	Pelletier, Elise
Morin, Alvina	Pelletier, Elise Marie
Morin, Bertha	Pelletier, Emma
Morin, Dolorès	Pelletier, Eugène
Morin, François, X.	Pelletier, Ferdinand
Morin, Joseph E.	Pelletier, Gédéon
Morin, Laura S.	Pelletier, Gérard
Morin, Léandre	Pelletier, Helen
Morin, Yvonne	Pelletier, Jean P.
Morneau, Aurèle	Pelletier, J. W.
Morneau, Désiré	Pelletier, Joseph E.
Morneau, Joseph A.	Pelletier, Joseph F. Jr.
Morneau, Pascal	Pelletier, Joseph J.
Morneau, René	Pelletier, Joseph O.
Motard, Honora E.	Pelletier, Joseph
Motard, Rita, A.	Pelletier, Joseph U.
Nadeau, Eugénie M.	Pelletier, Lucien R.
Nadeau, Esdras	Pelletier, Lucien
Nadeau, Marcel	Pelletier, Lucille
Nadeau, Roland	Pelletier, Marie A.
Nadeau, William	Pelletier, Maurice
Newman, Jeannette	Pelletier, Odias
Nolet, Léo	Pelletier, Peter J. N.
Normand, Arthur	Pelletier, René
Normand, Joseph E.	Pelletier, René J.



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Pelletier, Wilfred	Ruest, Eva M.
Perron, Joseph	St. Amand, Jeannette
Perron, Robert	St. Amand, Louise
Perry, Joseph	St. Hilaire, Eugénie
Petelle, Délina	St. Jean, Annette
Pineault, Edgar	St. Laurent, Louise Marie
Pineault, Ernest	St. Pierre, Adelbert
Plante, Arthur	St. Pierre, Albert T.
Plante, Cléophas	St. Pierre, Arthur
Poirier, Dr. Horace	St. Pierre, Eugène
Poirier, Gédéon J.	St. Pierre, Eva
Poitrass, Henri	St. Pierre, Fortunat
Poitrass, Wilfred J.	St. Pierre, Joseph F.
Poitrass, P. Wilfred	St. Pierre, Lucille
Pollard, Lillian	St. Pierre, Nelson
Poussard, Roméo A.	St. Pierre, Pauline
Poussard, Arthur L.	St. Pierre, Willie
Pothier, Pierre	Samson, Albert
Provost, Alfred	Samson, Laura
Rainville, Ludger	Sauvageau, Fidèle
Raymond, Joseph E.	Sauvageau, Roland
Raymond, Ludger	Savard, Alexis
Raymond, Margaret O. C.	Savoie, Doris
Raymond, Thomas	Sechovey, Emma E.
Richard, J. Albert	Shelley, Caroline
Richard, Laudia	Simard, Adelard
Richard, Stephen H.	Simard, Allard
Richard, William	Simard, Rose
Richard, Zélie	Simard, Wilfred
Rioux, Delphis	Smith, L. and J. F. Daly
Robinson, Alfred M.	Soucy, Joseph
Rouillard, Adélard	Soucy, Jacqueline
Rouillard, Ida M.	Soucy, Venant
Rouillard, Roméo	Spears, Florence
Roulier, Dr. Bernard S.	Spevach, Benjamin
Rousseau, Gabrielle	Spevach, Lucienne
Rousseau, L. C.	Strom, Olaf D.
Rousseau, Marie A.	Sullivan, Jane
Roy, Alice	Surette, William
Roy, Alfred	Taché, Corinne
Roy, Alphonse	Talbot, Albert E.
Roy, Cécile	Talbot, Albert
Roy, G. J.	Talbot, Grace M.
Roy, George, Albert	Talbot, William
Roy, Jean P.	Talbot, William J.
Roy, Joseph A.	Tanguay, Albert A.
Roy, Léda	Tanguay, Wilfred
Roy, Maria P.	Tardiff, Arthur
Roy, Marie	Tardiff, Florence
Roy, Marie A. L.	Tardiff, J. A. Luke
Roy, Marie E.	Tardiff, Paul E.
Roy, Richard	Tardiff, Queenie
Roy, Richard E.	Tardy, Roy
Roy, Thérèse	Thériault, Adeline
Rozumek, Hélène	Thériault, Alfred

### LISTE DE CONTRIBUTEURS (Suite)

Thériault, Alyre	Tremblay, Edmond
Thériault, Emile	Tremblay, Edward
Thériault, Emma	Tremblay, Girard
Thériault, Ernest	Tremblay, Hugh
Thériault, Florence	Tremblay, Jeanne
Theriault, Joseph	Tremblay, Joseph A.
Thériault, Joseph	Tremblay, Lydia
Thériault, Nellie	Tremblay, Polycarpe
Thibault, Emile J.	Tremblay, Roger
Thibault, Lucia	Tremblay, Rita
Thibault, Marie J.	Tremblay, Thomas
Thibault, Omer A.	Tremblay, Wilhemmine
Thibault, René J.	Turcotte, Annie
Thibodeau, Marie A.	Turcotte, Fred M.
Tondreau, Adélar J.	Turcotte, Normand C.
Tondreault, Alfred	Turgeon, Yvonne
Tremblay, Adélar	Vaillancourt, Abel A.
Tremblay, Adrien	Vanasse, Albertine
Tremblay, Dr. Arthur	Vibert, Philippe
Tremblay, Charles	Villandre, Albina
Tremblay, Clara	Violette, Guy

There were also many smaller contributions in addition to those listed above.

In March of 1944, the St. Joseph's parish and, consequently, the Laurier Association, lost their good friend Father Chaput, who was to become the pastor in Hudson, Massachusetts. The Association gave him a great send-off with a dinner party on Monday, March 27.

Mr. Alphonse Boucher, Vice President of the Association, was the master of ceremonies and showed us once again his skills with good humor and expertise.

After a chicken dinner, Mr. P. Alcide Pelletier, Treasurer of the Association, presented Father Chaput with a fitting and long-lasting gift: a gold wristwatch. The happy recipient admired the gift and was very appreciative.

Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier, President of the organization, then gave the main speech of the evening dedicated to our special guest. He described how the hero of the evening always worked well with the late pastor Vermette and the other priests in the parish, helping the Laurier Association members to organize various successful "lawn parties" and launch the fundraiser for the completion of the church and the erection of a permanent monument to honor those from the parish who served in the military, that is to say, all of the veterans. He revealed that in two years, more than \$75,000.00 had been pledged.

During the evening, many praised Father Chaput for his dedication to justice and his talents as acting pastor during the fourteen months he served the St. Joseph's parish.

In his unfathomable providence, God came to take the soul of this devoted pastor in November 1947.

In February of 1944, there was a Mardi Gras carnival, and on Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, more than 200 members met in St. Joseph's hall on Harbor Street to hear the financial report of the committee, to meet the new pastor, Father Eli Barnaud, and to listen to the honorable Raoul H. Beaudreau, Superior Court Judge.

With the funds raised from the carnival and other organizations, it would be possible to reconstruct the church and erect the permanent monument to the veterans of the two World Wars.

Among the guests that evening were Judge Robert W. Hill, Mr. Frank Poor, and Mr. Bruce Coffin. The master of ceremonies was Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier, President of the Laurier Association.

The evening began with a delicious appetizer served by a caterer from Lynn. Miss Muriel Hallé, who had recently won a New England singing contest in which a thousand singers competed, sang “C’est l’Amour,” “La Chanson de Rire,” and “Le Vieux Refrain.” She was accompanied by Mrs. Marjorie Leadbetter.

The Treasurer of the committee, Mr. P. Alcide Pelletier, gave the financial report and announced that the Mardi Gras carnival had a net profit of \$2,330.81 and that the fundraiser for the church and the monument had raised \$36,000.00 to date, 80% of which had already been received. His report was met with great enthusiasm.

The master of ceremonies announced that, in just over two years since this committee was formed, it had collected over \$60,000.00 towards the construction of the church and the monument to the young men and women of the parish who had served their country.

Father Eli Barnaud, recently named successor to the late Fr. J. Stanislas Vermette, expressed his satisfaction and his pleasure in meeting such a large number of workers and distinguished guests. He praised the committee for their great success and promised to give his full support to bring to completion the projects which were already well underway. He extended his sincere thanks to the representatives from Sylvania Co. and Hytron Corp.,<sup>17</sup> present at the event, for their generous contributions and for their attendance that evening. He then asked everyone present to pull all their efforts together to aid in the present conflict by working for the war production companies in order to ensure victory and assist the men and women on the front.

Miss Hallé then charmed the audience with her rendition of the following two songs: “Say a prayer for the boys over there” and “One Kiss.”

The master of ceremonies announced that Fr. Georges Chaput, former vicar of the St. Joseph’s parish and a tireless worker, now the pastor of the Christ the King parish in Hudson, had sent his thanks to the committee for their help during his vicariate at St. Joseph’s. He expressed his regrets that an important matter that kept him from attending.

Judge Robert W. Hill expressed his pleasure in meeting the new pastor and promised his sincere support for all of the activities of the parishioners. He praised the master of ceremonies, President of the Red Cross for region five, and his workers, for their remarkable results. They were the top fundraisers in the last campaign by nearly 40 percent.

The main speaker of the evening was Judge Raoul H. Beaudreau of Belmont. He recalled that his first assignment after being named to the Superior Court was to sit on the county court in Salem and that his first session opened with a prayer recited by Father Pierre H. Grenier, the former pastor of St. Joseph’s church. He spoke of his admiration for the people of Salem. He said he was very touched by the

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<sup>17</sup> Sylvania and Hytron were large companies with headquarters and manufacturing facilities in the Salem area. They produced light bulbs/lighting (Sylvania) and tubes and semiconductors (Hytron). Both employed significant numbers of French-Canadian and Franco-American Salemites over many decades. Both had received government contracts to produce goods for the military during WWII.

invitation to attend this evening and to have the opportunity to congratulate the new pastor of the largest Franco-American parish in the Diocese of Boston and to meet such a great group of Franco-American workers. The enjoyable evening ended with Miss Hallé singing “The Star Spangled Banner.”

Another Mardi Gras party was organized the following year, in February 1945, at the St. Joseph’s school hall, by the Laurier Association. This event netted a profit of \$3,135.00.

The officers and members of the Association worked enthusiastically, anticipating the coming victory, and made plans for a variety of events that would not only raise the remaining funds needed for the reception to honor the return of the brave young people and erect a monument in their honor but also contribute to the construction fund for the new St. Joseph’s church.

However, on April 3, 1945, during a meeting of the Association, Fr. Eli Barnaud, then pastor of the parish, announced to the members that their activities would end after the “lawn party” to be held in the summer, even though the Association did not yet have sufficient funds for the reception to welcome back our young men and women then serving overseas or for the erection of the monument.

Despite this ultimatum of sorts, the members of the Association worked with vigor and enthusiasm to make the “lawn party” a success in the summer of 1945. Half of the profits from the “lawn party” were given to the pastor, the other half were put in the fund for the veterans reception and the erection of the monument. After this “lawn party,” the Association was still \$2,500 shy of its original goal.

In response to this setback, one of the officers of the Association held a dinner on August 13, 1945 at the Pequot Cafeteria <sup>18</sup> where the President gave an overview of the Association’s activities and where the 300 members in attendance promised to raise all of the funds needed to ensure a reception that would be appropriate and worthy of our veterans and to erect the monument in Lafayette Park.

This dinner was presided over by Mr. Zenon A. Lavoie. The first speaker was Fr. Francis LeBrun of St. Joseph’s parish. On behalf of the pastor and all the parishioners, he expressed his gratitude for the great work of the group and asked the members to remain united and to continue their noble efforts.

Mr. P. Alcide Pelletier, then Treasurer, gave a detailed financial report. He showed how the last carnival, despite numerous obstacles, had accumulated a net profit of \$4,800.00. He also gave an exact accounting of all the group’s activities since its organization about four years earlier. His report was well received and applauded.

Miss Cécile Potvin, accompanied by Miss Lorraine Bélanger, provided the vocal solos, then the President Joseph F. Pelletier was introduced and spoke about all the Association’s activities, noting that the organization had been founded as a civic society within St. Joseph’s parish but that it had expanded its activities to support the Red Cross.

Mr. Pelletier gave a rousing speech to praise the memory of the late pastor Vermette, who had suggested the founding of the Laurier Association. He recalled how Father Vermette had approved of and fully cooperated with the Association in its efforts to raise funds to erect a monument in Lafayette Park dedicated to the memory of the parish’s veterans. The President also recalled the excellent cooperation of Father Georges Chaput, who had been named Director of the Association by Father Vermette. He

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<sup>18</sup> The Pequot Cafeteria was a privately owned banquet venue in Salem. Owners Irene and “Spike” Talbot advertised the space as available for “Clubs, Weddings, Showers, Private Parties”.

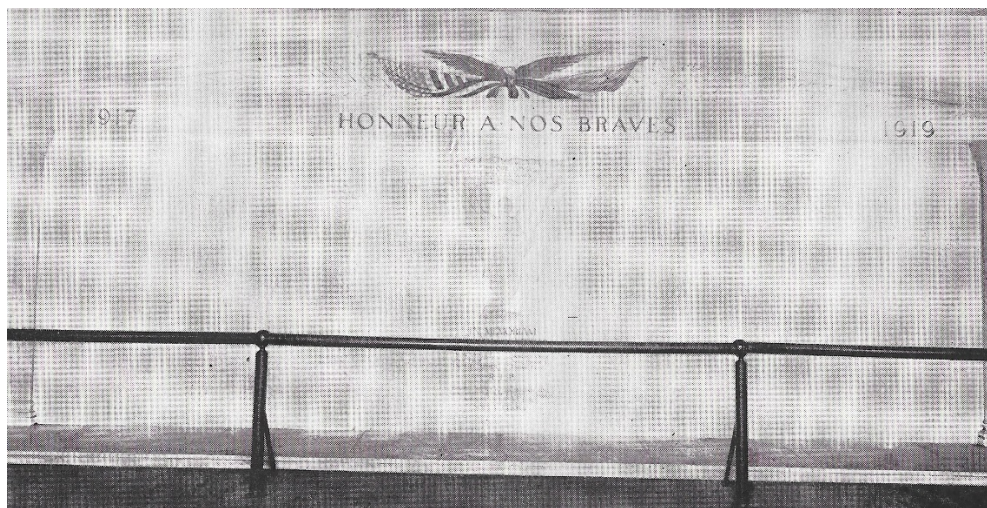


also recognized the assistance of Father Paul Martin for his help on the last “lawn party” and Father Francis LeBrun.

The President then broached the topic of the controversy supposedly surrounding the monument. He announced that \$2,500.00 were still needed in order to reach the \$25,000.00 goal for the monument, and he asked the members if they wanted to continue their efforts to reach that goal. It was with great enthusiasm that they decided to continue their work in order to be able to offer a first-class reception for the returning veterans. He then asked everyone to think of ideas in order to reach the goal and said that something would have to be done after Labor Day.

It was then announced that the dinner had been paid for by a friend of the Association and that the evening would not require expenditure of any funds from the Association or from the parish. The evening ended with some dancing to the music provided by Mr. Lucien Audette’s orchestra, with some bowling, and with others simply admiring all these activities. The next day, there was the great news of the surrender of Japan....

The officers and members of the Laurier Association had finally achieved their goal. Not only did they participate in the work and activities of the parish, but also in the fundraisers of the Red Cross during the war, and thanks to their efforts a grand total of over \$100,000.00 had been raised.



*Honor Roll of the First World War*

## Chapter III

### Contributions to St. Joseph's Parish During the Wars

Since St. Joseph's parish was not founded until after the end of the Civil War, it is impossible to state that parishioners from St. Joseph's took up arms during that time, even though the archives of the City of Salem show a certain number of citizens of French descent fighting for the flag during the Civil War.

During the Spanish American War, several members of St. Joseph's parish enlisted in the U.S. Army and the U.S. Navy. Massachusetts Company H, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment counted among its ranks a great number of our parishioners, several of whom gave their lives in service to the country. It is unfortunate that we have been unable to obtain the names of those from our parish who served in that war.

The parish was also well represented during the conflict with Mexico. A great number of our men, actually, enlisted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 101<sup>st</sup> Field Artillery Regiment.

It wasn't until the first World War that records of parishioners from St. Joseph's serving in the armed forces of our country were preserved. As would occur during World War II, we provided the greatest percentage of men to the armed forces, more than any other group in the City of Salem. Twelve men from St. Joseph's parish lost their lives on the battlefield during the first World War.

During the second World War, parishioners from St. Joseph's fought on land, at sea, in the air, and under the water in all four corners of the world. Wherever a major battle occurred, someone from St. Joseph's was there. Twenty-eight men from St. Joseph's parish in Salem lost their lives in service to the country. During World War I and World War II, 2,105 men and women from the parish fought under the flag. The following names are those parishioners who served the country in the armed forces during the two World Wars:

### HISTORY WILL HONOR THESE NAMES

Veterans of the First World War

#### IN MEMORIAM

BOUFFARD, OLIVA	LEGER, HECTOR
BOURGAULT, PAUL	LEVESQUE, REMI
CHARETTE, ULRIC	MARC-AURELE, NOEL
DAVID, ARTHUR L.	MORENCY, OMER
JOLY, FRED	NEVE, PIERRE G.
LAVALLEE, ARTHUR	TARDIF, ELIAS

# *Veterans of World War I*

## VETERANS DE LA PREMIERE GUERRE MONDIALE

April, Alb.	Bouchard, N.	Couture, A.
April, E.	Bouchard, P.	Couture, J.
April, Eug.	Boucher, G. H.	Couture, N.
April, W.	Boucher, L.	Cyr, A. J.
Arsenault, E. J.	Boucher, N.	Cyr, O.
Arsenault, H.	Boudreau, A.	Daigle, J. B.
Audet, Alp.	Boudreau, D.	Dallaire, A.
Audet, C. H.	Boudreau, H.	Dallaire, E.
Auger, W. J.	Boudreau, P.	Dandurand, A.
Aylwin, G.	Boudreau, R.	Dandurand, Em.
Barbin, R.	Bouffard, A.	Dandurand, E.
Beaudin, O.	Bourassa, L. R.	Dandurand, P.
Beaudry, A.	Bourgault, A.	Delisle, J. B.
Beaulieu, Ad.	Bourgault, T.	Demers, A.
Beaulieu, A. J.	Brais, A.	Demeule, A. H.
Beaulieu, Art.	Breault, A.	Demeule, A. W.
Beaulieu, L. J.	Breault, E.	Demeule, W.
Beaulieu, O.	Breault, J.	Denis, J.
Beaupré, J. A.	Breault, L.	Desaulniers, H. P.
Beauvais, S.	Breault, W.	Deschamps, A.
Bédard, G.	Briand, J. A.	Deschamps, Ald.
Bélanger, G. R.	Brisebois, F.	Deschamps, H. G.
Bélanger, J. A.	Brisebois, L.	Deschamps, O. J.
Bélanger, L.	Brochu, J. D.	Deschamps, On.
Bélanger, O.	Bruneau, J.	Deschamps, P.
Bélanger, P.	Brunet, A.	Deschamps, P. L.
Bélanger, R. J.	Bureau, E. D.	Deschenes, Alb.
Belleau, A. F. X.	Cameron, A.	Deschenes, E.
Belleau, F.	Cameron, H.	Deschenes, H.
Bergeron, J. S.	Cameron, W.	Deschenes, J.
Bergeron, O.	Caron, A.	Deschenes, J. E.
Bergeron, W. A.	Caron, F.	Deschenes, O.
Bernard, F.	Caron, L. B.	Deschenes, R.
Bernard, N.	Caron, O.	Deschenes, U.
Bernier, A.	Caron, P. A.	Deschenes, W.
Bernier, G. X.	Caron, R.	Desjardins, Alp.
Bernier, P.	Castonguay, J.	Desjardins, Art.
Bertrand, A.	Chalifour, A.	Desmarais, E. L.
Bertrand, P.	Charest, H.	Desmarais, J.
Bérubé, E.	Charette, U.	Desmarais, Jos.
Bérubé, H. A.	Charbonneau, U. H.	Devarene, A.
Bilodeau, A.	Chartier, E.	Devost, J.
Blanchette, F.	Chartier, L.	Derome, J.
Blouin, W.	Chouinard, A. A.	Dion, A. J.
Bois, T.	Cimon, A. V.	Dion, H.
Boisvert, J. A.	Claveau, H.	Dion, J. J.
Bolduc, E. V.	Claveau, T.	Dion, L.
Bolduc, J. B.	Cormier, C.	Dionne, Ad.
Bouchard, Ad. L.	Corriveau, J.	Dionne, Arm.
Bouchard, Adr.	Côté, A.	Dionne, Art.
Bouchard, Alb.	Côté, E.	Dionne, Az.
Bouchard, Alf.	Côté, H.	Dionne, E. J.
Bouchard, Ar. J.	Côté, I.	Dionne, G. E.
Bouchard, J.	Couillard, A. J.	Dionne, J.

# VETERANS DE LA PREMIERE GUERRE MONDIALE

Dionne, J. O. S.	Gagnon, D. G.	Lafontaine, R.
Dionne, L.	Gagnon, E.	Laforme, C. A.
Dragon, A.	Gagnon, E. J.	Lagacé, J. A.
Dragon, E.	Gagnon, H.	Lamarre, F.
Dragon, L. H.	Gagnon, O.	Lamarre, J. E.
Dubé, A.	Gagnon, P.	Lambert, A.
Dubé, E.	Gallant, F.	Lambert, H.
Dubé, Ern.	Gaucher, L. J.	Lambert, L. J.
Dubé, G. P.	Gauthier, A.	Lambert, L. T.
Dubé, I.	Gauthier, A. J.	Lampron, G. T.
Dubé, J.	Gauthier, D.	Landry, A.
Dubé, J. A.	Gauthier, L.	Landry, H.
Dubé, J. C.	Giguere, O. J.	Landry, J.
Dubé, L.	Gilbert, A.	Laplante, A. J.
Dubé, M.	Goudrault, A.	Laplante, J.
Dubé, P.	Gouin, W.	Lapointe, A.
Dubé, T.	Gould, A.	Lapointe, D.
Dubé, W.	Grenier, A.	Lapointe, W.
Dubois, T.	Grenier, R.	Lareau, A.
Ducharme, A.	Guérette, E.	Lareau, J.
Ducharme, Art.	Guérette, J. B.	Larivée, A.
Ducharme, G.	Guérette, J. B. J.	Larivée, W.
Duchesne, M.	Guy, E.	Larocque, E.
Dufault, A.	Guy, J. A.	Laverdière, E.
Dufour, A.	Harrison, Alb.	Lavoie, A.
Dumas, A.	Harvey, A.	Lavoie, E. W.
Dumas, D.	Hébert, A.	Lavoie, H. E.
Dumas, F.	Holand, U.	Lavoie, P. P.
Dupuis, S.	Imbeault, F. J.	Lavoie, R. E.
Durand, G.	Irwin, R. N.	Lebel, A. P.
Durand, L.	Jalbert, A.	Lebel, Ad.
Elie, O.	Jalbert, C. E.	Lebel, Ad. J.
Engleheart, A.	Jalbert, Ed.	Lebel, Arm.
Fecteau, D.	Jalbert, Em. J.	Lebel, Art.
Fecteau, J. N.	Jodoin, Alf.	Lebel, O.
Fontaine, J. A.	Jodoin, Alp.	Leblanc, Alb.
Fortier, H.	Jodoin, J. D.	Leblanc, Alex.
Fortier, J. A.,	Jodoin, Jos.	Leblanc, Alf.
Fortin, E.	Jodoin, L.	Leblanc, C.
Fortin, J. A.,	Jodoin, T.	Leblanc, Em.
Fournier, A.	Jodoin, Th.	Leblanc, Ern.
Fournier, E.	Joly, A.	Leblanc, H.
Fournier, E. J.	Joly, D. E.	Leblanc, J. H.
Fournier, G.	Joly, E. C.	Leblanc, Jos.
Fournier, J. E.	Joly, T.	Leblanc, J. M.
Fournier, J. R.	Julien, V.	Leblanc, Dr. J. O.
Fournier, J. S. O.	L'Abbé, T.	Leblanc, M.
Fournier, L. P.	Labelle, Arm.	Leblanc, N.
Fraser, C. E.	Labelle, J. E.	Leblanc, O.
Fraser, J. A.	Labonté, H.	Leblanc, W. N.
Fraser, L.	Labrie, J. D.	Leblanc, W.
Frechette, J.	Lachance, J.	Leboeuf, A.
Gadbois, E.	Lacombe, Alb.	Lebrun, Ad.
Gagné, W.	Lacombe, Art.	Lefebvre, F.
Gagnon, A.	Lacombe, G. A.	Léger, A.



# VETERANS DE LA PREMIERE GUERRE MONDIALE

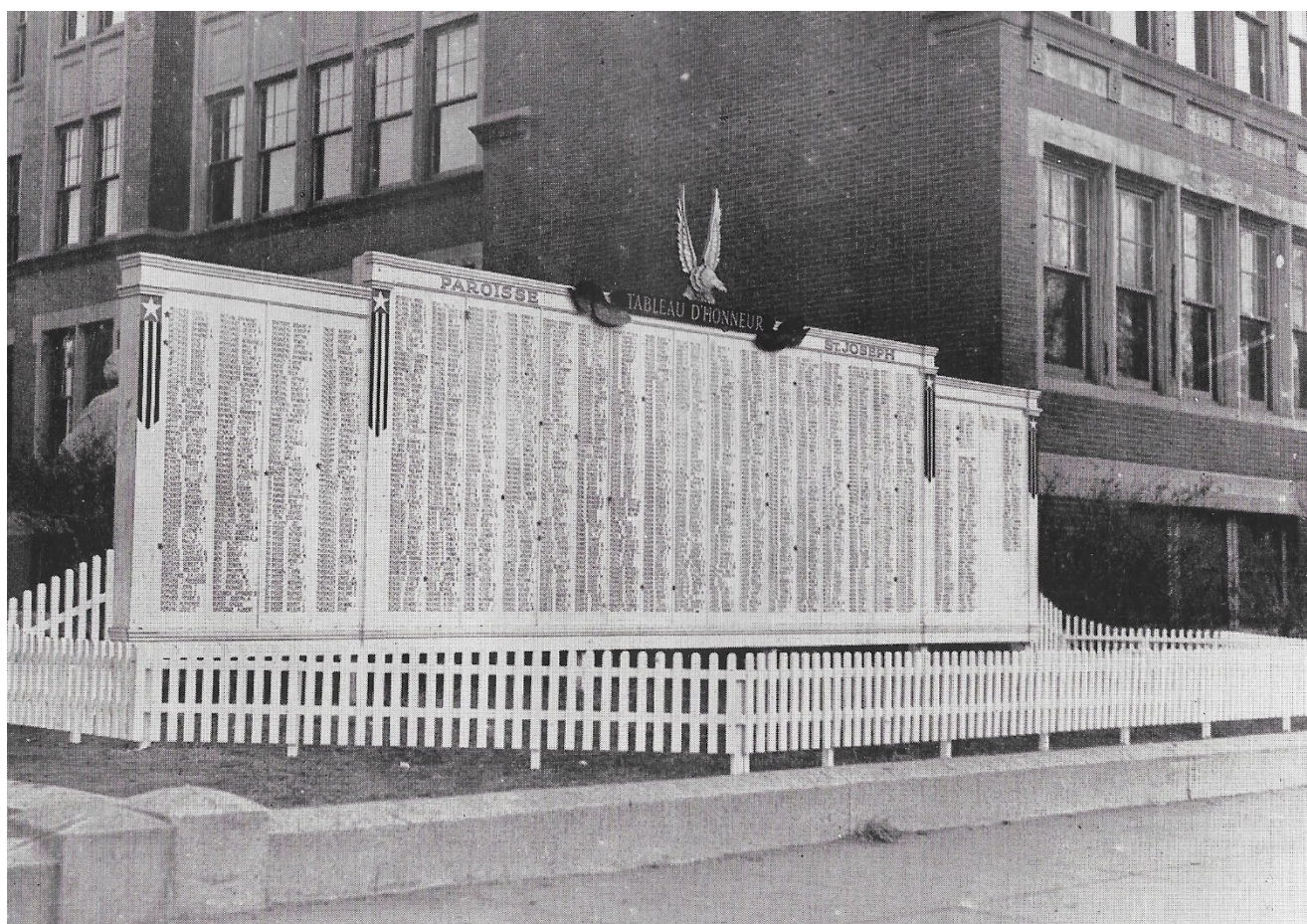
Léger, C.	Martel, J.	Paradis, J. A.
Léger, R. Z.	Martel, C. C.	Paradis, O.
Leclerc, C.	Martin, A. D.	Parent, J. J.
Leclerc, J.	Martin, A. J.	Parent, O.
Leclerc, J. E.	Martin, C.	Pariseau, A. E.
Leclerc, W.	Martin, J. L.	Pariseau, C. E.
Leduc, C. H.	Martineau, A. A.	Pariseau, E. E.
Leduc, H.	Martineau, E.	Pariseau, L. A.
Leduc, W.	Melanson, J. A.	Pelchat, A. J.
L'Heureux, D.	Mercure, O.	Pelchat, L. R.
L'Heureux, O.	Michaud, A.	Pelletier, Ad.
Lemieux, J. A.	Michaud, Alb.	Pelletier, Alf.
Lepage, N.	Michaud, Alf.	Pelletier, Ant.
Lepare, A. A.	Michaud, E.	Pelletier, Ant. J.
Lessard, C. H.	Michaud, G.	Pelletier, Arm. L.
Letarte, J. A.	Michaud, J.	Pelletier, Art.
Levasseur, B.	Migneault, E. L.	Pelletier, A.
Levasseur, P.	Migneault, E. D.	Pelletier, D. E.
Léveillé, G. E.	Migneault, L.	Pelletier, D.
Léveillé, René	Migneault, Luc.	Pelletier, E.
Léveillé, Rol.	Moreau, A.	Pelletier, E. J.
Lévesque, Alf. J.	Moreau, H.	Pelletier, G.
Lévesque, Alex.	Morency, L.	Pelletier, J. A.
Lévesque, Am.	Morency, O.	Pelletier, J. H.
Lévesque, E.	Morin, E.	Pelletier, H.
Lévesque, Ed.	Morin, F.	Pelletier, J. F.
Lévesque, Em. J.	Morin, F. X. S.	Pelletier, J. U.
Lévesque, E. W.	Morin, F. T. H.	Pelletier, J. F. X.
Lévesque, Ern. J.	Morin, I. R.	Pelletier, L. O.
Lévesque, E.	Morin, J.	Pelletier, N. J.
Lévesque, Jean	Morin, J. J.	Pelletier, M.
Lévesque, Jos.	Morin, J. R.	Pelletier, T.
Lévesque, J. E.	Morin, L.	Pépin, C. H.
Lévesque, J. P.	Morin, L. F.	Pépin, E. J.
Lévesque, O.	Morin, P.	Perreault, A.
Lévesque, T. E.	Morneau, A. I.	Perron, E.
Lizotte, J. L.	Morneau, J. A.	Perron, J. A.
Louf, R.	Nadeau, E. J.	Perron, T.
Lussier, H. A.	Nadeau, P. A.	Perron, W.
Madore, A.	Noiseux, J. E.	Phaneuf, H.
Madore, A. J.	Nolan, A.	Plouffe, H. N.
Madore, W. D.	Normand, J. E.	Plourde, L.
Mailhot, A.	Normand, W.	Plourde, P.
Maillet, A.	Ouellette, Alf.	Plourde, T.
Mailly, R. J.	Ouellette, Arthur	Pineault, C.
Malenfant, N.	Ouellette, E. J.	Pineault, J. L.
Marchant, W.	Ouellette, G.	Poirier, A. R.
Maréchal, A.	Ouellette, J. O.	Poirier, C. E.
Maréchal, H.	Ouellette, J. L.	Poirier, G. A.
Marmen, A.	Ouellette, Od.	Poirier, G. E.
Marquis, Alp.	Ouellette, Om.	Poirier, J. A.
Marquis, A.	Ouellette, W.	Poirier, J. R.
Marquis, E.	Page, T.	Poirier, L. P.
Marquis, J. B.	Painchaud, R.	Poirier, V.
Marquis, J. W.	Paquette, W.	Porter, A. L.

# VETERANS DE LA PREMIERE GUERRE MONDIALE

Porter, H.	Soucy, J. A.	Thibault, Alp.
Porter, E.	Soucy, J. P.	Thibault, Art. J. A.
Porter, R. F.	Soucy, Lea.	Thibault, E.
Pothier, E. A.	Soucy, Lo.	Thibault, G.
Pothier, R.	Soucy, Luc.	Thibault, H.
Primeau, J. J.	Soucy, P. J.	Thibault, J. E.
Provencher, A.	Soucy, W.	Thibault, L.
Provencher, A. D.	Stover, L. E.	Thibault, P.
Provencher, J. A.	St. Amand, A. J.	Thibault, R.
Rainville, C. W.	St. Amand, J. F.	Thibault, Rene
Raymond, A.	St. Amand, L. F.	Thibodeau, H.
Raymond, Delle. J.	St. Amour, O.	Thibodeau, R.
Rhéaume, G.	St. Jean, A. J.	Thibodeau, W.
Richard, A.	St. Jean, J.	Thompson, J.
Richard, E.	St. Louis, J.	Tondreau, Ad.
Richard, H.	St. Laurent, A.	Tondreau, E.
Richard, H. S.	St. Laurent, J.	Tondreau, W. F.
Rivard, A.	St. Laurent, J. A.	Tremblay, Am.
Rivard, J.	St. Laurent, L.	Tremblay, Art.
Rouleau, A.	St. Pierre, Alb. T.	Tremblay, J. Ed.
Rouleau, E.	St. Pierre, Art.	Tremblay, J. E.
Rouleau, H.	St. Pierre, F.	Tremblay, L.
Rousseau, C.	St. Pierre, G.	Tremblay, M.
Roy, J.	St. Pierre, J. A.	Trudeau, A.
Roy, N.	St. Pierre, L.	Trudel, C.
Roy, P.	St. Pierre, R.	Trudel, E.
Roy, P.	Taché, O.	Turcotte, A.
Ruest, J. A.	Talbot, L.	Turcotte, Alf.
Sansoucy, A.	Tardif, E.	Turcotte, D.
Sénéchal, A.	Théberge, C. E.	Turcotte, E. A.
Sénéchal, H.	Thériault, A. J.	Turcotte, F. M.
Sénéchal, J.	Thériault, C.	Turcotte, T.
Sénéchal, L.	Thériault, E.	Turgeon, R.
Sénéchal, N.	Thériault, Eug.	Vadnais, G.
Simard, A.	Thériault, H.	Vaillancourt, J. A.
Simard, J.	Thériault, I.	Vincent, E.
Simard, J. J.	Thériault, C. E.	Voyer, E. N.
Simard, L.	Thériault, J. E.	Walker, L.
Simoneau, J.	Thériault, J.	Walker, W.
Sirois, M.	Thériault, R.	White, M.
Soucy, J.	Thériault, W.	Wright, L.







*Honor Roll of the Second World War*



## VETERANS OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

### IN MEMORIAM

BOLDUC, JOSEPH R.

LEBLANC, PIERRE A.

BOUCHARD, GEORGE A.

LEVESQUE, RAYMOND A.

BOUCHARD, HENRY S.

MICHAUD, ROLAND I.

CARON, ROLAND L.

PAQUIN, BERTRAND C.E.

CHOUINARD, ROLAND A.	PELLETIER, ADRIEN J.
D'AMOUR, RAYMOND J.	PELLETIER, JOSEPH E.
DANJOU, WILFRED	PELLETIER, LUCIEN E.
DELISLE, JOHN	PELLETIER, RENE R.
DESJARDINS, KENNETH C.	POIRIER, ROBERT J.
GAGNE, ARTHUR F.J.	TARDY, CHANEL R.
GAGNON, VICTOR L.	TREMBLAY, OSCAR O.
GUERRETTE, LEO P.	TURCOTTE, PETER J.
LEBEL, ALFRED A.	VIBERT, OLIVA N.
LEBLANC, HENRY D.	WALKER, JOSEPH H.

*Veterans of the Second World War*

Abodeely, Fred	Banville, Archille J.
Allain, Alban Joseph	Banville, Joseph Albert
Allain, Oscar George	Banville, Joseph G.
Angleheart, Norman J.	Barbeau, George E.
Anglin, Carroll F.	Barrette, Arthur A.
April, Elie J., Jr.	Barrette, Henri Delphis
April, Ernest W.	Barron, Robert Joseph
April, Eugene, Jr.	Barton, Edward Alfred
April, Norman	Barton, Lester F.
April, Paul Leo	Bates, Lester John, Jr.
Archambault, Albert	Bates, Lester John
Archambault, Clarence W.	Beaulieu, Florian J.
Archambault, Francis H.	Beaulieu, Jean Anthony
Archambault, Irving A.	Beaulieu, Leo J.
Archambault, Walter Wilfred	Beaulieu, Louis A.
Arpin, George H.	Beaulieu, Lucien R.
Arpin, Philippe F.	Beaulieu, Raymond P.
Arsenault, Gerard Joseph	Beaulieu, Robert J.
Arsenault, Henry J.	Beaulieu, Thomas Joseph
Arsenault, J. Leo	Beaulieu, Walter Leo
Audet, Arthur Clovis	Beaulieu, Wilfred J.
Audet, Clement Richard	Beaupré, George Henry
Audet, Henri Joseph	Beaupré, Omer C.
Audette, Raymond P.	Beauregard, Armand F.
Audette, Roland Leonard	Beauregard, François F.
Auger, Arthur J.	Beauregard, George A.
Auger, Leo E.	Beauregard, Joseph E.
Auger, William J.	Beauregard, Paul Henry
Authier, Normand J.	Beausoleil, Edouard
Aylwin, George W., Jr.	Beauvais, Henri Robert
Aylwin, Theodore Francis	Beauvais, Lawrence



## VETERANS DE LA DEUXIEME GUERRE MONDIALE

Beauvais, Robert Joseph	Birmingham, Walter P., Jr.
Bédard, Alfred Aimé	Blais, Bertrand A.
Bédard, Arthur J.	Blais, Edward H.
Bédard, George Joseph	Blais, Roland E.
Bédard, Raymond Henry	Blais, Wilfred A.
Bédard, Roland Joseph	Blanchette, Francis Xavier
Bégin, Paul A.	Blanchette, Henry A.
Bélanger, Charles Edward	Blanchette, Robert F.
Bélanger, Edmond Joseph	Blanchette, Thomas
Bélanger, George E.	Blanchette, Walter Wilfred
Bélanger, Joseph Albert	Blouin, Webster W.
Bélanger, Leon J.	Boisvert, Robert Louis
Bélanger, Nil F.	Boisvert, Thomas Cyril
Bélanger, Philippe	Bosse, Arthur W.
Bélanger, Robert	Bosse, Rosario
Bélanger, Roger E.	Bouchard, Adrien C.
Bélanger, Roger R.	Bouchard, Alfred Joseph
Bélanger, Rosario Joseph	Bouchard, Cleo Philip
Bélanger, Thomas W.	Bouchard, Ernest A.
Bélisle, Joseph Laurent	Bouchard, John B.
Béliveau, Roger L.	Bouchard, Laurent A.
Belleau, Aime Adélar	Bouchard, Leon Alfred
Belleau, Alfred W.	Bouchard, Maurice E.
Belleau, Armand Ferdinand	Bouchard, Rodolphe
Belleau, Emilio J.	Bouchard, Roger J.
Belleau, George A.	Bouchard, Roland H.
Belleau, George Lucien	Bouchard, Roland Joseph
Belleau, Joseph Rudolph	Boucher, Edgar J.
Belleau, Robert L.	Boucher, George H.
Belliveau, Roger Joseph	Boucher, Jean Paul
Bergeron, Leo P.	Boucher, Martial Joseph
Bergevin, Raymond G.	Boudreau, Alfred C. Marchand
Bernard, Armand G.	Boudreau, Francis Marcel
Bernard, Arthur Joseph	Boudreau, Henri Joseph
Bernard, Blair	Boudreau, Joseph A.
Bernard, George Robert	Boudreau, Roger J.
Bernard, Henry B.	Boudreault, Ronald H.
Bernard, Melvin J.	Bouffard, Alfred J.
Bernard, Norman E.	Bouffard, Theodore Paul
Bernard, Sylvio Joseph	Boulay, Albert Adrien
Bernier, Raymond Joseph	Boulay, Allen Marcel
Bérubé, Adrian Gerard	Bouley, Leo Paul
Bérubé, Alcide Aimé	Bouley, Robert Emile
Bérubé, Arthur L.	Bourassa, Armand A.
Bérubé, Fernand L.	Bourassa, Maurice
Bérubé, François E.	Bourassa, Robert Leo
Bérubé, George Henri	Bourgault, George A.
Bérubé, Lucien L.	Bourgault, Leo
Bérubé, Paul Emile	Bourgault, Paul
Bérubé, Richard E.	Bourgoin, Carlton James
Bérubé, Roland A.	Bourgoin, Carol Edward
Bilodeau, Emile Joseph	Branchaud, Henri B.
Bilodeau, John, Jr.	Breault, Gerald
Bilodeau, Joseph L.	Breault, Richard Alexander
Bilodeau, Joseph W.	Breault, Robert D.

## VETERANS DE LA DEUXIEME GUERRE MONDIALE

Breton, Henri	Choquette, Edward J.
Breton, John Thomas	Choquette, William J.
Brilliant, Edward Ovila	Chouinard, Adrien N.
Brilliant, Joseph Rosario, Jr.	Chouinard, Albert R.
Brilliant, René Charles	Chouinard, Armand C.
Brisbois, Alfred F.	Chouinard, Arnold René
Brisson, Wilbur Edward	Chouinard, Conrad Leonel
Broadman, William Robert	Chouinard, Conrad Napoléon
Brooks, Joseph Henry	Chouinard, Donald James
Broyer, Albert Alfred	Chouinard, Guy Arthur
Broyer, Rene Joseph	Chouinard, Joseph H., Jr.
Broyer, Robert Edward	Chouinard, Lucien
Bryson, Leonel T.	Chouinard, Philippe
Bryson, Raymond F.	Chouinard, Wilfred Armand
Brunet, Lionel H.	Chrétien, Leo Gerard
Burns, Harold Joseph	Cimon, Albert Joseph
Buxton, George H.	Cimon, Ralph
Cadorette, Thomas L.	Cimon, Roger P.
Camire, Leonel Gerard	Claise, Henry A.
Camire, Roland Joseph	Claise, Paul Louis
Campbell, Henry Joseph	Claise, Robert Joseph
Campbell, Louis	Claveau, Alfred Ovide
Caron, Adrien Edmond	Claveau, Eugene J.
Caron, Adrien M.	Claveau, Joseph Raymond
Caron, Alfred Arthur	Claveau, Thomas Joseph
Caron, Alfred L.	Cloutier, Arthur J.
Caron, Alphonse	Cloutier, Henri J.
Caron, Arthur J.	Conlon, Harry G.
Caron, Emile Joseph	Conrad, Bertram L.
Caron, Henry Anthony, Jr.	Corbin, Henri Emile
Caron, Joseph A.	Cormier, Arthur
Caron, Leo E.	Cormier, Paul R.
Caron, Rene Joseph	Cormier, Robert Bertram
Caron, Robert	Cormier, Roger Frank
Caron, Robert Richard	Corneau, Albert Charles
Caron, Roger A.	Corneau, Roland Arthur
Caron, Roland Joseph	Corriveau, Bertrand Ernest
Caron, Roland L.	Corriveau, Martial P., Jr.
Caron, Ronald Alfred	Côté, Alphonse Camille
Caron, Thomas Leon	Côté, Auguste Henri
Caron, W. Walter	Côté, Deo Philippe
Carrière, Philippe J.	Côté, Edouard Edmond
Casey, George W. Jr.	Côté, Dr. Gérard C.
Chagnon, Paul Leon	Côte, Henry Joseph
Chagnon, Roger Euclide	Côté, Joseph William Raymond
Chalifour, Charles Alvah	Côté, Julien R.
Chalifour, Jean Lucien	Côté, Laurent Jules
Chalifour, Oscar Joseph	Côté, Leonard J.
Chaput, Louis Joseph, Jr.	Côté, Ludger Camille
Charest, Roland U.	Côté, Paul Armand
Charette, Arthur Joseph	Côté, Renald A.
Charette, Euclide	Côté, Robert
Charette, Joseph	Côté, Robert Francis
Chartier, Emile, Jr.	Côté, Robert Joseph
Chatigny, Edgar Romeo	Cram, John H.

## VETERANS DE LA DEUXIEME GUERRE MONDIALE

Croteau, Edward B.	Deschenes, Henri
Croteau, Richard R.	Deschenes, Joseph Emile
Croteau, Wilfred Joseph, Jr.	Deschenes, Norman
Cyr, Raymond Lawrence	Deschenes, Omer Francis
Daffe, Joseph Robert	Deschenes, Paul Alfred
Daigle, Euclide	Deschenes, Paul Emile
Daigle, Harold	Deschenes, Paul H., Jr.
Daigle, Roland	Deschenes, René Antonio
Dallaire, Patrick J.	Deschenes, Richard Ernest
Dallaire, Raymond Ovila	Deschenes, Robert E.
Daly, Albert J.	Desjardins, Conrad Jean
Daly, Ernest Lucien	Desjardins, Joseph
Daly, John Francis	Desjardins, Dr. René Alphonse
Daly, Richard Edward	Desmarais, Joseph Ernest
Daly, Robert Arthur	Desrocher, Roland David
Daly, Roland Joseph	Devoe, Lucien
D'Amour, Paul	Dion, Albert Reginald
D'Amour, Raymond A.	Dion, Arthur Joseph
D'Amour, Victor Joseph	Dion, Donald B. T.
Danjou, Joseph R.	Dion, George Woodrow
Dansreau, Hector	Dion, Joseph Jean
Dansreau, Raymond Thomas	Dion, Joseph
Darsigny, Alfred Raymond	Dion, Leonel George
Daudelin, Louis Phillipe	Dion, Normand F.
Daudelin, Roland	Dion, Raymond J.
DeGrandpre, Jean Charles	Dion, Raymond Joseph
DeGrandpre, Paul S.	Dion, Richard Frederick
Deland, Rodney Wilbur	D'on, Roger S.
Deiande, Robert	Dion, Victor Horace
Delisle, Joseph Peter	Dionne, Edouard Levi
Delisle, Leo A.	Dionne, Elisha James, Jr.
Demeule, Albert	Dionne, Emile Ernest Joseph
Demeule, Armand Edward	Dionne, Ernest
Demeule, Armand E.	Dionne, Eugène René
Demeule, Charles Leo	Dionne, George Leo
Demeule, Daniel Mark	Dionne, Henry Amédée
Demeule, Delphis J.	Dionne, Henry Edward
Demeule, J. Robert	Dionne, Hubert M.
Demeule, Joseph W.	Dionne, Leonidas Joseph
Demeule, Roland Joseph	Dionne, Louis Bernard
Demeule, Wilfred Joseph	Dionne, Robert Paul
Denault, Arthur Joseph	Dionne, Roger
Denault, Henry Joseph	Dionne, Roger Joseph
Denault, Paul Joseph	Dionne, Roger L. P.
Denis, Albert Edward	Doucette, Francis Joseph
Denis, Albert Joseph, Jr.	Doucette, Harold Lulian
Denis, Gerard Joseph	Doucette, Joseph Howard Roger
Denis, Jean Alvin	Doucette, Leo D.
Denis, Olivier Julien	Dragonas, Peter N.
D'Entremont, Victor P.	Dubé, Armand Joseph
Derocher, Alfred J.	Dubé, Barromée A.
Deschamps, Charles V.	Dubé, Fernand J.
Deschamps, Valmore J. Jr.	Dubé, Gerard Paul
Deschenes, Bernard Joseph	Dubé, Joseph Paul
Deschenes, Ernest J.	Dubé, Leo A.



## VETERANS DE LA DEUXIEME GUERRE MONDIALE

Dubé, Normand Joseph  
 Dubé, Paul E.  
 Dubé, René Peter  
 Dubé, Robert  
 Dubé, Robert J.  
 Dubé, Robert Louis  
 Dubé, Roger A.  
 Dubé, Roger J.  
 Dubé, Roland Frederick  
 Dubé, Roland George  
 Dubé, Roland Raymond  
 Dubé, Sarto A.  
 Dubois, Harry Joseph  
 Dubois, Theodore Joseph  
 Dubois, Vincent Norman  
 Duchene, Roland Charles  
 Duchene, William Joseph  
 Duchesne, Gerard Joseph  
 Duchesne, William Joseph  
 Dudley, Joseph Edmond  
 Dufault, Robert W.  
 Dufour, Norman J.  
 Dufour, Robert George  
 Dumas, Ernest Joseph  
 Dumas, Eugene Louis  
 Dumas, Leslie Euclide  
 Dumas, Louis Victor  
 Dumas, Maurice Majorique  
 Dumas, Robert Gaston  
 Dumas, Robert L.  
 Dumas, Robert Paul  
 Dumont, Aimé J.  
 Dupuis, Edward J.  
 Dupuis, Edward Joseph  
 Dupuis, George A.  
 Dupuis, Gilbert L.  
 Dupuis, Leonel Albert Joseph  
 Dupuis, Leonel J.  
 Dupuis, Roger J.  
 Eno, Leonel Pierre  
 Erwin, Isidore William  
 Erwin, Lucien Henry  
 Fecteau, Granlee Peter  
 Fecteau, Raymond E.  
 Fecteau, Roger A.  
 Filipiak, Henry Valentine  
 Foley, Richard Edward  
 Fontaine, Arthur Paul  
 Fontaine, Everett Omer  
 Fontaine, Robert P.  
 Fontaine, Wilfred Leon  
 Fortin, Jean Romuald  
 Fortin, Laurent Joseph  
 Fortin, Roland Edmond  
 Foucher, Richard Philip

Fournier, Arthur Louis  
 Fournier, Arthur Philip  
 Fournier, Eugène L.  
 Fournier, Gérard Arthur  
 Fournier, Joseph Jean  
 Fournier, Victor Lawrence  
 Francoeur, Ferdinand Joseph  
 Fraser, Albert Wilfred  
 Fraser, Clément Gerard  
 Fraser, Leonel Roméo  
 Fraser, Lucien J.  
 Fraser, Raymond Thomas  
 Fraser, Robert Arthur  
 Fugère, Raymond H.  
 Gaboriault, Lloyd Albert  
 Gachignard, Leon  
 Gagné, Albert J.  
 Gagné, Albert Joseph  
 Gagné, Alfred Edward  
 Gagné, Alfred Roger  
 Gagné, Auguste Joseph  
 Gagné, Ernest Joseph  
 Gagné, George H.  
 Gagné, Joseph A. E.  
 Gagné, Joseph Omer  
 Gagné, Laurent Benoit  
 Gagné, Lucien J.  
 Gagne, Maurice Henry  
 Gagnon, Adélard Amédée, Jr.  
 Gagnon, Alexandre  
 Gagnon, Alfred G.  
 Gagnon, Alfred Joseph  
 Gagnon, Charles Emile, Jr.  
 Gagnon, Donald  
 Gagnon, Donat Jean  
 Gagnon, Edward F. A.  
 Gagnon, Emile Adélard  
 Gagnon, Emile Auguste  
 Gagnon, Ernest Adolphe  
 Gagnon, Félix George  
 Gagnon, Floyd E.  
 Gagnon, François Xavier  
 Gagnon, George J.  
 Gagnon, George Octave  
 Gagnon, George R.  
 Gagnon, Germain Lucien  
 Gagnon, Grégoire Leonel  
 Gagnon, Henry Arthur  
 Gagnon, Henry Gerard, Jr.  
 Gagnon, Henry Rosario  
 Gagnon, Joseph Arthur P.  
 Gagnon, Joseph Laurier  
 Gagnon, Leonel Ernest  
 Gagnon, Louis J.  
 Gagnon, Omer J.



## VETERANS DE LA DEUXIEME GUERRE MONDIALE

Gagnon, Oscar Adélar	Gourdeau, Jules Anthony, Jr.
Gagnon, Richard Adélar	Goyette, Leonel Armand
Gagnon, Roger T.	Goyette, Ralph
Gagnon, Roland Frank	Goyette, Robert J.
Gagnon, Victor Joseph	Graveline, Gerard B.
Gallant, Andre Joseph	Graveline, Leo P.
Gallant, George Joseph	Graveline, Robert Roland
Gallant, Lucien Joseph	Grégoire, Alfred Adélar
Gallant, Rosario J.	Grenier, Placide Edward
Gallant, William J.	Griffard, William
Gamache, Euclide Alfred	Guenette, Alban Valmir
Garrette, Adélar Fortunat	Guenette, George Henry
Garrette, Gérard Noël	Guerette, Omer Albert
Garrette, Joseph Adélar	Guérin, Leo Paul
Garrette, Wilfred Francis	Guilbault, Maurice Harvey
Gastonguay, Jean L. D.	Guilbault, Roger Ernest
Gaudette, Marcel Robert	Guy, Eugène
Gaudreault, Albert Adélar	Guy, George Alphonse
Gaudreault, Alfred Laurier	Guy, Paul Peter
Gaudreault, Armand J.	Guy, Roland
Gaudreault, Gérard Adélar	Hallé, Humbert Aimée
Gaudreault, Léopold Bernard	Hamel, Joseph E.
Gaudreault, René Henry	Harvey, Antonio P.
Gaudreault, Rosario Napoleon	Harvey, Edmond A., Jr.
Gauthier, Alfred Philippe	Higley, Gilbert George
Gauthier, Antonio O.	Hogan, Lawrence T.
Gauthier, Augustin	Houde, Armand Joseph
Gauthier, Charles Joseph	Houde, Joseph C.
Gauthier, Joseph Aldéric	Howell, William F.
Gauthier, Joseph Alfred	Imbeault, René
Gauthier, Joseph Armand	Jacques, Roland A.
Gauthier, Joseph John	Jalbert, Alfred Joseph
Gauthier, L. Jean	Jalbert, Armand Alfred
Gauthier, Omer P.	Jalbert, Armand Joseph
Gauthier, Roland Francis	Jalbert, Charles Elie
Gélineau, Arthur Emile	Jalbert, Charles Gérard
Gélineau, Ray Francis	Jalbert, Ernest J.
Genest, Edmond Arthur	Jalbert, George Alexandre
Genest, Henry Edward	Jalbert, George Edward
Genest, Paul Edgar	Jalbert, George Henry
Ginkus, Andrew	Jalbert, Gerard Peter
Girard, Adélar Lucien	Jalbert, Hector Henry
Girard, Arthur J.	Jalbert, Leo William
Girard, Condé George	Jalbert, Léon J.
Girard, Conrad Ludger	Jalbert, Raymond A.
Girard, Joseph George	Jalbert, Robert J.
Girard, Oliva Arthur	Jalbert, Roger Philip
Girard, Robert René John	Jalbert, William J.
Girard, Thaddee Joseph	Jean, J. Robert
Gleason, Donald G.	Jodoin, Alfred Ernest, Jr.
Godbout, John R.	Jodoin, Ernest Richard
Godin, Orrin E.	Jodoin, Hector Philippe
Godin, Paul H.	Jodoin, Henry J.
Gonyea, Robert Edward	Jodoin, Joseph Damase, Jr.
Gosselin, Leonard J.	Jodoin, Joseph L.

## VETERANS DE LA DEUXIEME GUERRE MONDIALE

Jodoin, Malcolm Alphonse	Landry, Victor Louis
Jodoin, Raymond Omer	Langlais, Leo Jean
Jodoin, René Louis	Langlais, Richard J.
Jodoin, Richard Alfred	Langlais, Robert Joseph
Jodoin, Richard C.	Languirand, Arthur Alfred
Jodoin, Télesphore Gregoire	Languirand, Louis Joseph
Joly, Joseph Leo	Laplante, Albert Joseph
Julien, Bertrand	Laplante, J. Adélard
Julien, Daniel W.	Laplante, J. Albert
Julien, Edgar Francis	Laplante, Octave Joseph
Julien, Louis Edward	Laplante, Orrin Henry
Julien, Paul Edmond	Laplante, Richard Everett
Julien, Raymond A.	Lapointe, Arthur G.
Julien, Roland G.	Lapointe, Ernest Eugène
Julien, Wilfrid Napoléon, Jr.	Lapointe, Frederick
Kane, Dr. Francis G.	Lapointe, Henry A.
Kawczynski, Emil Stanley	Lapointe, Isidore Edward
Kendall, Rosario N.	Lapointe, Maurice David
King, Leo J.	Lapointe, Philippe Isidore
King, Louis S.	Lapointe, Robert Joseph
Knight, Roland C.	Lapointe, Robert R.
L'Abbé, Gerald D.	Laporte, Joseph Arthur L.
Labbée, Albert R.	Laporte, Henry George L.
Labbée, Alyre	Laporte, Lucien
Labelle, Armand J., Jr.	Lareau, Richard Marcel
Labelle, Irving A.	Larose, Albert Joseph
Labelle, Kenneth W.	Larue, Arthur Rosario
Labelle, Raymond Charles	Larue, Emile Paul
Labonté, Albert Henry	Lavoie, Albert J.
Labonté, Ernest A.	Lavoie, Alexandre Leo
Labonté, Philip August	Lavoie, Antonio Adolphe
Labonté, Raymond J.	Lavoie, Armand Moïse
Labrecque, Albert A.	Lavoie, Arthur
Labrecque, Lucien Joseph	Lavoie, Elias Adélard
Labrecque, Maurice J.	Lavoie, Emile J.
Labrecque, Roland	Lavoie, Gilbert
Labrie, Ernest J. L.	Lavoie, Henry Eugene
Labrie, René E.	Lavoie, Leon Joseph
Labrie, Robert Arthur	Lavoie, Leonard E.
Labrie, Roméo Euclide	Lavoie, Robert George
Labrie, Sylvio Louis	Lazzaro, John
Lachance, Raymond Joseph	Lebel, Gérard Ovide
LaChapelle, Albert A.	Lebel, Philippe, Jr.
LaChapelle, Charles Edward	Lebel, Raymond Armand
LaChapelle, Jean Paul	Lebel, Raymond G.
Lacombe, Arthur J.	Lebel, Romeo Victor
Laforme, Joseph Edward	Lebel, Rudolphe Paul
Lajoie, Louis Napoléon	Leblanc, Albert N.
Lamarre, Antoine Joseph	Leblanc, Albert Ulric
Landry, Charles Eugène	Leblanc, Alfred Joseph
Landry, Gérard Mitchell	Leblanc, Arthur Alfred
Landry, Harold Uldric	Leblanc, Clément Stanley
Landry, Harry A.	Leblanc, Edgar Leon
Landry, Leonel Alfred	Leblanc, Hector R.
Landry, Robert Olivier	Leblanc, Henry J.

## VETERANS DE LA DEUXIEME GUERRE MONDIALE

Leblanc, Horace Théodore	Levasseur, Paul Emile
Leblanc, Joseph Arthur G.	Levasseur, Philip L.
Leblanc, Joseph Francis	Levasseur, Robert Napoléon
Leblanc, Joseph Victor L.	Levasseur, Roger W.
Leblanc, Leo Albert	Léveillé, Carlton Leon
Leblanc, Leo Gelas	Léveillé, Clarence Edward
Leblanc, Louis Victor	Léveillé, Francis Gerald
Leblanc, Paul Raymond	Lévesque, Adrien
Leblanc, Pierre Antoine	Lévesque, Arthur Jean
Leblanc, Peter George	Lévesque, Claude George
Leblanc, Prospère Lucien	Lévesque, Conrad Leo
Leblanc, Raymond Donald	Lévesque, Emile Arthur
Leblanc, Raymond George	Lévesque, Elmer Arthur
Leblanc, Raymond Robert	Lévesque, Eugène Edmond
Leblanc, René O.	Lévesque, Herbert Wilfred
Leblanc, René Robert	Lévesque, Jean Alfred
Leblanc, Richard G.	Lévesque, Joseph Raymond
Leblanc, Robert Louis	Lévesque, Laurent Gerald
Leblanc, Rodolphe A.	Lévesque, Laurier Alexandre
Leblanc, Théodore J.	Lévesque, Léo Aimé
Leboeuf, H. James	Lévesque, Raymond Joseph
Leboeuf, Roger L.	Lévesque, Robert Edward
Lebrun, Aurel Alexandre	Lévesque, Robert Joseph
Lebrun, Charles Eugène	Lévesque, Rodolphe Albert
Lebrun, Raoul Napoléon	Lévesque, Roland
Lebrun, Raymond Donat	Lévesque, Thomas Joseph
Lebrun, Roger Armand	Lévesque, Walter Omer
Leclair, Leo Joseph	Lévesque, Wilfred J.
Leclair, Normand Roger	L'Heureux, Henri Edmond
Leclair, Robert Lucien	L'Heureux, Philip L.
Leclerc, George R.	L'Heureux, Raoul I.
Leclerc, Lucien Arthur	L'Heureux, Robert Orille
Leclerc, Robert R.	L'Heureux, Roland A.
Lefrançois, Edouard	L'Horty, Edward Alfred
Legault, John Roderick	Liberge, Edward J.
Léger, Hector Joseph	L'Italien, Arthur Lucien
Léger, Rév. Herbert J.	L'Italien, Elmer John
Léger, Raymond Robert	L'Italien, Henry
Lemay, George A.	L'Italien, Laurien
Lemelin, Wilfred Joseph	L'Italien, Leo
Lemieux, Ernest Andrew	L'Italien, Raymond
Leroux, Raymond E.	L'Italien, Roger William
Leroux, Robert P.	L'Italien, Walter Joseph
Lessard, William	Longval, Armand J.
Leszczynski, Joseph Stanley	Longval, Edouard Aimé
Letarte, Normand L.	Longval, Joseph William
Letourneau, Arthur L.	Longval, Robert
Letourneau, Henry Ovila	Longval, Stephane Roger
Letourneau, Joseph Hector	Loranger, Arthur Joseph
Letourneau, Roger N.	Lord, Paul Emile
Levasseur, Donald Edward	Lord, Rylance A.
Levasseur, George Albert	Lord, Victor R.
Levasseur, George Edward	Louf, Armand Alfred
Levasseur, Gerard Joseph	Louf, George James
Levasseur, Jean Valère	Louf, Raymond R.



## VETERANS DE LA DEUXIEME GUERRE MONDIALE

Louf, Roger Lucien	Mercier, Albert L.
Louf, Roland Omer	Michaud, Armand Emile
Lussier, Armand	Michaud, Arthur
Lussier, Armand Stanley	Michaud, Charles Isaïe
Lussier, George Albert	Michaud, Charles Victor
Lussier, Gerard Armand	Michaud, Donald Joseph
Lussier, Paul H.	Michaud, Edmond Joseph
Lussier, Roger Clément	Michaud, Edmond Joseph
Madore, Fernand Philippe	Michaud, George I.
Madore, Lucien Albert	Michaud, Gérard Alfred
Madore, Raymond J.	Michaud, Gérard Norman
Madore, Roland D.	Michaud, J. Alexandre
Mailhoit, Athanase Joseph	Michaud, Joseph, Jr.
Mailhoit, Raymond D.	Michaud, Joseph Ernest
Maillet, Edgar J.	Michaud, Léonel Jules
Mailloux, Gerard	Michaud, Louis Joseph
Maily, Binette Donat	Michaud, Lucien E.
Maki, John J.	Michaud, Malcolm Alphonse
Mallard, Elie Leo	Michaud, Dr. Raymond Arthur
Mallard, Harvey Albert	Michaud, Rio Gilbert
Mallard, Leo E.	Michaud, Robert Ernest
Mallard, William Charles	Michaud, Roland Arthur
Mallard, William Joseph	Michaud, Roland Ernest
Mandeville, George Joseph	Michaud, Roméo Ernest
Marc-Aurèle, Gérard	Michaud, Wilfred
Marcaurette, Roland Arthur	Migneault, Henry Paul
Marchand, Joseph Arthur, Jr.	Migneault, Philip C.
Marcheterre, Armand Joseph	Millett, Charles J.
Marcheterre, Benjamin	Millett, Edward George
Marcheterre, Omer	Millett, Robert Omer
Marcorelle, Edmond J.	Monette, Benjamin Franklin
Marquis, Armand D.	Monette, Raymond J.
Marquis, Charles Eugène	Moran, John D.
Marquis, George Aimé	Moreau, Emile George
Marquis, George Woodrow	Moreau, Joseph N.
Marquis, Joseph Antoine	Moreau, Joseph Roch
Marquis, Joseph Arthur	Moreau, Leo J.
Marquis, Joseph Wilfred	Morency, Eugene Henry
Marquis, Leo Arthur	Morency, Lawrence Joseph
Marquis, Leo G.	Morency, Lucien Henry
Marquis, René	Morin, Albert G.
Marquis, Richard J.	Morin, Albert J.
Marquis, Robert A.	Morin, Albert Joseph
Marquis, Robert Anthony	Morin, Armand L.
Martel, Edmond Henry	Morin, Charles Eugène
Martin, Ernest Joseph	Morin, Ernest Cléophas
Martin, George J.	Morin, Francis Ludger
Massé, Alfred E.	Morin, Frank Joseph
Massé, Henri Joseph	Morin, Gene Leo
McManus, Arthur	Morin, George Eustache
Melanson, Joseph Oscar	Morin, George Henri
Melanson, Omer G.	Morin, Harold Scott
Melanson, Roméo Laurier	Morin, Jean Joseph
Melanson, William James	Morin, J. A. René
Menchenton, William James	Morin, Léon



## VETERANS DE LA DEUXIEME GUERRE MONDIALE

Morin, Ludger A.	Ouellette, Raymond Raynald
Morin, Raoul Ludger	Ouellette, Raymond Wilbrod
Morin, Raymond George	Ouellette, René Alfred
Morin, Raymond J.	Ouellette, Robert Hector
Morin, Robert F.	Ouellette, Robert Lucien
Morin, Roger Joseph	Ouellette, Roger E.
Morneau, Albert Henry Joseph	Ouellette, Wilfred Eugène
Morneau, Alfred J. H.	Ouellette, Wilfred L.
Morneau, Benoît Anthony	Ouellette, Wilfred Léo
Morneau, Léo Elzéar	Painchaud, Roland N.
Morneau, Lucien Norman	Palardy, René J.
Morneau, Robert Albert Joseph	Panneton, Bertrand Joseph
Murphy, Joseph T.	Paquette, Philippe Victor
Musial, Bruno Frank	Paquin, Robert P.
Myslinski, Bernard	Paquin, Warren A.
Nadeau, Henry Joseph	Paré, Lucien A.
Nadeau, Joseph R. E.	Paré, Paul Emile
Nadeau, Robert Esdras	Paré, Roméo Alphonse
Nadeau, Roland J. A.	Parent, Armand Jean
Nadeau, Wilfred J.	Parent, Daniel Lawrence
Nadeau, William Henry	Parent, Frank R.
Neary, John J.	Parent, James Henry
Newman, Lester V.	Parent, Leavitt J.
Nolan, William F., Jr.	Parent, Maurice L.
Nolet, Leo Joseph	Parent, Robert Philip
Noyes, Raymond B.	Parent, Stephen L.
Noyes, Roland E.	Pariseau, Richard J.
O'Connell, Mortimer C.	Parmentier, Albert
Ouellette, Adélarde Elisée	Patrie, Louis Philippe
Ouellette, Adélarde Maurice	Patterson, Henry A.
Ouellette, Adrien Arthur	Pelletier, Adélarde Henry
Ouellette, Albanie	Pelletier, Albert
Ouellette, Albert Joseph	Pelletier, Albert J.
Ouellette, Alfred	Pelletier, Albert Joseph
Ouellette, Arthur William	Pelletier, Alphonse Joseph
Ouellette, Bertrand J.	Pelletier, Alphonse L.
Ouellette, Edward A.	Pelletier, Angela Roméo
Ouellette, Ernest	Pelletier, Antonio Joseph
Ouellette, Ernest A.	Pelletier, Armand Joseph
Ouellette, Eugène J.	Pelletier, Arthur Alfred
Ouellette, Francis J.	Pelletier, Arthur L.
Ouellette, George Henry	Pelletier, Avila A.
Ouellette, George Henry	Pelletier, Charles Eugène
Ouellette, Hector J.	Pelletier, Edmond Joseph
Ouellette, Henry Émile	Pelletier, Émile Charles
Ouellette, Henry Louis	Pelletier, Fernand
Ouellette, Jean R.	Pelletier, George Henry
Ouellette, Joseph George	Pelletier, Gérard Henry
Ouellette, Léo Eugène	Pelletier, Gérard J.
Ouellette, Léo Joseph	Pelletier, Gérard Joffre
Ouellette, Leonard G.	Pelletier, Hector Gustave
Ouellette, Oscar Gerald	Pelletier, Henry Bertram
Ouellette, Paul Napoléon	Pelletier, Henry J.
Ouellette, Philippe	Pelletier, Henry R.
Ouellette, Raymond H.	Pelletier, J. Émile

## VETERANS DE LA DEUXIEME GUERRE MONDIALE

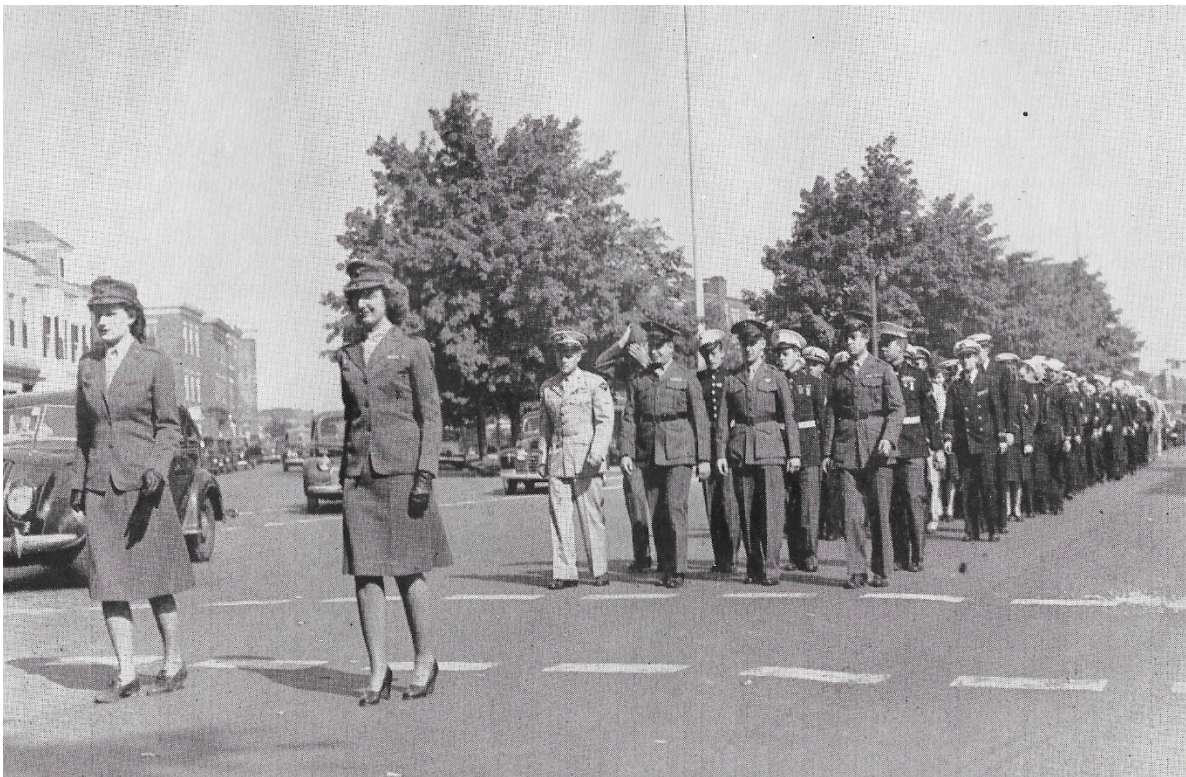
Pelletier, Jean  
 Pelletier, Jean Paul  
 Pelletier, Jean Paul  
 Pelletier, Joseph Alphonse  
 Pelletier, Joseph F., Jr.  
 Pelletier, Joseph Raymond  
 Pelletier, Laurent Leonel  
 Pelletier, Louis  
 Pelletier, Louis Jules  
 Pelletier, Raymond  
 Pelletier, Raymond Arthur  
 Pelletier, Raymond Thomas  
 Pelletier, René P.  
 Pelletier, Robert I.  
 Pelletier, Robert Joseph  
 Pelletier, Robert Léopold  
 Pelletier, Roger  
 Pelletier, Roland Hypolite  
 Pelletier, Roland Joseph  
 Pelletier, Trefflé Roland  
 Pépin, George H.  
 Pépin, Lawrence H.  
 Pero, Edward Francis  
 Pero, Harold Frederick  
 Pero, William W.  
 Perron, Bernard Clément  
 Perron, John Edward  
 Perron, Raymond Alexandre  
 Perron, Robert C.  
 Perron, Robert J.  
 Perry, Francis J.  
 Petit, Roger Leo  
 Petit Clerc, Maurice  
 Petitpas, Wilfred Joseph  
 Pineault, Roland A.  
 Pinette, Joseph Omer  
 Pizzo, Angelo Frank  
 Plante, André Antonio  
 Plante, Henry Joseph  
 Plante, Raymond J.  
 Plante, Wilfred A.  
 Plourde, Adrien  
 Plourde, Joseph Raymond  
 Plourde, Léo Arthur  
 Plourde, Marcel L.  
 Plourde, Robert Etienne  
 Plourde, Roger A.  
 Plourde, Rosario E.  
 Plourde, Vincent  
 Poirier, Eugene Ely  
 Poirier, Paul Emile  
 Poirier, Philip Lincoln  
 Poitras, Charles R.  
 Poitras, Bernard L.  
 Poitras, Donald John

Poitras, Gerald L.  
 Poitras, Richard W.  
 Poitras, Robert R.  
 Portelance, J. A. Louis  
 Pothier, George Albert  
 Pothier, John Frederick  
 Pothier, Louis E.  
 Pothier, Peter Bonaventure  
 Potvin, Alphonse George  
 Potvin, Louis C.  
 Potvin, Raymond  
 Poussard, Albert J.  
 Poussard, Eugène Léo  
 Poussard, Joseph Pollycarpe  
 Poussard, Normand J.  
 Poussard, René Edmond  
 Poussard, Roland Evangeliste  
 Poussard, Roméo Armand  
 Provencher, Ernest Joseph  
 Provencher, Raymond J.  
 Provencher, William  
 Provost, Alfred J., Jr.  
 Provost, Alphonse Arthur  
 Rainville, George Antonio  
 Rainville, John F.  
 Rainville, Kenneth W.  
 Rainville, Louis P.  
 Rainville, Raymond Gerard  
 Raymond, Alphonse Liguori  
 Rhéaume, Ernest Edward  
 Richard, Albert Elzéar  
 Richard, Aldéric J.  
 Richard, Anthony T.  
 Richard, Emile Joseph  
 Richard, Henry Arthur  
 Richard, Joseph Albert  
 Richard, Joseph Edouard  
 Richard, Léo Joseph  
 Richard, Pierre Alphonse  
 Richard, Robert  
 Rioux, Jean Paul  
 Robichaud, Eugene Lawrence  
 Robichaud, Thomas Donat  
 Robinson, Wilfred J.  
 Rouillard, Arthur Henry  
 Rouillard, Henry  
 Rouillard, J. V. Léonidas  
 Rouleau, Frederick M.  
 Rouleau, Robert J.  
 Rousseau, Maurice A., Jr.  
 Roy, Alfred J.  
 Roy, Emile J.  
 Roy, Gérard Antonio  
 Roy, Léonide Joseph  
 Roy, Philippe J.





*Veterans marching to attend mass on September 1, 1946*



*Veterans marching to attend mass*



## VETERANS DE LA DEUXIEME GUERRE MONDIALE

Roy, Reney W.	Sirois, Renald J.
Roy, Richard Edgar	Soucy, Leo J.
Roy, Richard Joseph	Soucy, Wallace Joseph
Roy, Robert Henry	Sullivan, Edward Frank
Rosumek, Raymond S.	Taché, Albert Joseph
Ruest, Joseph Alfred	Taché, George Roger
Ruest, Raoul	Taché, Henry Joseph
St. Amand, Eugène	Taché, Lucien
St. Amand, Henry Eugène	Taché, Norman C.
St. Amand, Lucien Ludger	Taché, Paul Emile
St. Amand, Raymond Esdras	Taché, Richard
St. Amand, René Joseph	Talbot, Arthur Joffre
St. Arnault, Robert J.	Talbot, Edmond H.
St. Gelais, Gérard Albert	Talbot, George Albert
St. Gelais, Henry Charles	Talbot, George J.
St. Jean, Edward	Talbot, Henry Joseph
St. Laurent, Léo Thomas	Talbot, Henry Joseph
St. Pierre, Albert L.	Talbot, Norbert Joseph
St. Pierre, Arthur V.	Talbot, Omer Alexandre
St. Pierre, Edgar	Talbot, Robert A.
St. Pierre, Edgar Joseph	Talbot, Roland Joseph
St. Pierre, Eugène N.	Tanguay, Albert A.
St. Pierre, Henri, Jr.	Tanguay, Francis A.
St. Pierre, Joseph Lucien	Tanguay, Wilfred O.
St. Pierre, Leo Larry	Tardiff, Alphonse David
St. Pierre, Lucien	Tardiff, Francis A.
St. Pierre, Norman A.	Tardiff, George R.
St. Pierre, Philippe Thomas	Tardiff, Henry Arthur
St. Pierre, Richard Arthur	Tardiff, Lawrence F.
St. Pierre, Richard J.	Tardiff, Lucien Armand
St. Pierre, Richard William	Tardiff, Paul Laurie
St. Pierre, Robert Joseph	Tardy, Joel Francis
Santerre, Albert J.	Tétreault, Alfred J.
Santerre, Rosaire P.	Tétreault, Ernest Joseph
Sauvageau, Albert Ferdinand	Thériault, Armand Alexandre
Sauvageau, Gaetan Joseph	Thériault, Arthur J.
Sauvageau, Henry Joseph	Thériault, Charles Joseph
Sauvageau, Raymond Henry	Thériault, Charles Joseph
Sauvageau, Raymond Wilfred	Thériault, Clément Victor
Savard, Eugene Wilfred	Thériault, Elias A.
Savoie, Alban	Thériault, George H.
Savoie, Ovila	Thériault, George Henry
Sénéchal, Arthur	Thériault, Gerard E.
Sénéchal, Emile J.	Thériault, Hector Elie
Sénéchal, Ernest Francis	Thériault, Henry Roland
Sénéchal, George Robert	Thériault, Jean Joseph
Sénéchal, Raymond Emile	Thériault, Joseph A.
Sentkowski, Harry D.	Thériault, Joseph Antonio
Sharrock, Albert Joseph	Thériault, Joseph E. R.
Simard, Alphonse M.	Thériault, Joseph Ovide
Simard, Lawrence Robert	Thériault, Laurier Eliodore
Simard, Louis Joseph	Thériault, Leo J. L.
Simard, Ludger Joseph	Thériault, Leonel J.
Sirois, Alfred V.	Thériault, Omer, Jr.
Sirois, Gaston Gilbert	Thériault, Pantaléon B.



## VETERANS DE LA DEUXIEME GUERRE MONDIALE

Thériault, Philip David  
 Thériault, Raoul Alphonse  
 Thériault, Raymond Ernest  
 Thériault, Raymond Joseph  
 Thériault, René Joseph  
 Thériault, Robert Alderic  
 Thériault, Robert Arthur  
 Thériault, Robert Joseph  
 Thériault, Roger Octave  
 Thériault, Roland  
 Thesing, Robert H.  
 Thibault, Alfred Joseph  
 Thibault, Joseph P. T.  
 Thibault, Laurent Lucien  
 Thibault, Lawrence Charles  
 Thibault, Leonce Joseph  
 Thibault, Raymond Ernest  
 Thibodeau, Harry J.  
 Thibodeau, Lucien Hector  
 Tondreau, Norman J.  
 Tondreau, Robert Edward  
 Tremblay, Albert Léopold  
 Tremblay, Albert Ludger  
 Tremblay, Armand R.  
 Tremblay, Claude D.  
 Tremblay, Conrad Joseph  
 Tremblay, Emile A.  
 Tremblay, Eugène A.  
 Tremblay, Eugène J. M.  
 Tremblay, Francis Xavier  
 Tremblay, Harold E.  
 Tremblay, Henry  
 Tremblay, J. Antonio  
 Tremblay, Jean Vincent  
 Tremblay, John H.  
 Tremblay, Joseph Alfred  
 Tremblay, Marcel Joseph  
 Tremblay, Raymond Gerard  
 Tremblay, René L.  
 Tremblay, Robert Joseph  
 Tremblay, Roger C.  
 Tremblay, Roger J.  
 Tremblay, Vernon  
 Trudeau, Raymond A.  
 Turcotte, Arthur Joseph  
 Turcotte, Charles Joseph  
 Turcotte, Emile  
 Turcotte, Henry Joseph  
 Turcotte, Louis Joseph  
 Turcotte, Rodolphe Charles  
 Turcotte, Rodolphe Harry  
 Turcotte, Sylvio Raymond  
 Turgeon, Archille Egilde  
 Turgeon, Arthur Raoul  
 Turner, George E.

Vallée, Jean Charles  
 Vallée, Raymond Paul  
 Vallée, Robert J.  
 Vallière, Louis Elphège  
 Verrette, Gerard J.  
 Vibert, Donat P.  
 Vibert, Wilfred Leo  
 Walker, Francis Jean  
 Walsh, Lloyd G.  
 Zuccaro, Guy Frank

Allen, Anna  
 Beaugerard, Annette, R. A.  
 Bourque, Eleanor E.  
 Brisebois, Jeannette  
 Brown, Lucille N.  
 Champagne, Rita E.  
 Cudmore, Cecile  
 Dionne, Jeannette R.  
 Dionne, Lucille Carmen  
 Dionne, Lucille Patricia  
 Flashbart, Marie Alice  
 Gagnon, Annette Ida  
 Gagnon, Madeleine C.  
 Gagnon, Marie Jeanne  
 Gallant, Helene M.  
 Jean, Clemence G.  
 Jean, Jacqueline Ann  
 Jodoin, Lorette A.  
 Julien, Diana Rita  
 Kable, Jeannette  
 Landry, Beatrice  
 Lapointe, Denise Y.  
 Leblanc, Helen Theresa  
 Lowery, Louise C.  
 Morin, Gloria A.  
 Ouellette, Barbara A.  
 Parent, Simonne  
 Pelletier, Anita Seraphine  
 Pelletier, Annette L.  
 Pelletier, Therese F.  
 Potter, Lillian S.  
 Rivard, Jeannette L.  
 Tardiff, Lillian M.  
 Tremblay, Ida A.  
 Welenc, Ruth



## Chapter IV

### RECEPTION TO HONOR THE VETERANS OF ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH

As soon as the war with Japan ended, the officers of the Laurier Association immediately started work on plans for the reception to honor the veterans from St. Joseph's parish. All of the arrangements for this reception were made by the officers of the Association.

The first step was to decide exactly when the reception would be held. It was necessary to wait some time after the end of the hostilities so that the largest possible number of veterans would be able to attend the joyous welcome home reception. The committee knew that it would be impossible to have all of the veterans present in early 1946. They decided that the reception should be held on August 31 and September 1 and 2 of that year, which was Labor Day weekend.

It was then decided that the reception would begin with a grand military ball during the evening of August 31 in the hall at the Armory.<sup>19</sup> The next morning, Sunday, a pontifical solemn high mass<sup>20</sup> would be sung at Palmer's Cove and that evening there would be a brass band concert in the same location. The celebrations would close on the evening of Labor Day, September 2, with a banquet to honor all the veterans in the Armory hall.

The committee realized that all of this would mean considerable costs, given that no veterans would be asked to pay anything since they were the heroes to be honored at the party. The committee also knew that hard work would be required in order to make all of the necessary arrangements and above all to make sure that each and every one of the veterans would receive an invitation to attend all of the events planned and outlined above.

To those ends, numerous subcommittees or special committees were formed, and each officer of the Association accomplished his assigned task in the best possible way.

### MILITARY BALL

The military ball at the Armory on Essex Street was one of the most amazing events of its kind to ever be held there. It was a Saturday night, August 31, 1946. The hall was superbly decorated with ferns, flags, and tricolor streamers, and the attendees, who numbered more than 2,500, were eye-catching with

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<sup>19</sup> The Salem Armory sat near the edge of the Salem Common.

<sup>20</sup> A pontifical mass is a mass that is celebrated by a bishop. A solemn high mass is a formal mass that is usually sung and involves assisting priests, deacons, subdeacons, and altar servers.



women in multicolor silk evening gowns and men mostly in uniform. Music was provided by the 22-member Chase orchestra.



*The sound of the horn signaling the end of the Grand March*

The Grand March was led by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.<sup>21</sup> and Mrs. Joseph F. Pelletier, who were followed by Mr. Joseph Fr. Pelletier and Mrs. Lodge, Representative Edmond Talbot and Mrs. McLellan of New York, and Mr. and Mrs. Wilfrid Pelletier, members of the Laurier Association and their spouses, veterans and their companions. The rows were thirty-two across and this Grand March, it must be said, was a brilliant spectacle to behold.

Mr. Alfred P. Lebel was in charge of the hall committee, while Mr. Arthur Bouffard acted as director of the march. Mr. Lebel was also assisted by Mr. Adelbert St. Pierre.

During the intermission, demonstrations were given by the “Crusaders” drill team from Saint Anne’s in Lawrence and the drill team from the Laliberté Council in Salem, under the direction of Miss Louise Higley, who had more than ten years experience in these movements, having continuously participated in organizations and competitions and having won several championships. On this occasion, the show proved to be one more success for her.

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<sup>21</sup> Senator Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. (sometimes called Henry Cabot Lodge II) was the grandson of the early 20<sup>th</sup> c. Senator Henry Cabot Lodge who was born in Beverly. Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. was a Republican US Senator from Nahant, Massachusetts and a US ambassador to South Vietnam. He was also the Republican nominee for Vice President during the 1960 Presidential election alongside Richard Nixon. He resigned his seat in the US Senate in 1944 to serve in Italy and France during WWII. He won reelection to the Senate in 1946.





### *The Grand March*

A buffet, offering various refreshments, had been set up in the basement, and it goes without saying that it was very popular. Everything was absolutely free.

### PONTIFICAL MASS

The following morning, on Sunday, Palmer's Cove<sup>22</sup> was a unique and impressive sight to see, with about 4,500 people attending the outdoor pontifical mass. The mass celebrated by His Excellency Monsignor Louis F. Kelleher, Auxiliary Bishop of Boston, was held under a radiant sky. Approximately six hundred chairs were occupied, and hundreds of people stood during the ceremony honoring the twenty-eight soldiers lost from St. Joseph's parish.

The last time that we, the parishioners of St. Joseph's, had celebrated mass outdoors was after the great conflagration of 1914 when Father Donat Binette celebrated mass outdoors each day, surrounded by parishioners living temporarily in camps in Forest River Park.<sup>23</sup>

On the field, during the pontifical mass of September 1, 1946, the altar was placed at home plate on an elevated platform. It was across from Green Street, so the area could accommodate an unlimited number of attendees. The choir, specially prepared and directed by Father Francis LeBrun, occupied one section of the bleachers, to the right of the altar. It should be noted that Miss Cécile LaChance was

<sup>22</sup> This park space abutting the ocean lay at the edge of the neighborhood that was home to St. Joseph's.

<sup>23</sup> During the Great Fire of 1914, 15,000 people were forced out of their homes and 3,500 were left completely homeless. Many lived in camps in Forest River Park for several months.



the soloist. The Sisters of the Assumption had graciously offered the use of the organ from their chapel for the mass. This offer had been accepted with gratitude. The altar also came from their convent, and it was decorated with patriotic streamers and beautiful flowers.

The drum corps from Saint Anne's in Lawrence and members of the drill team of the Laliberté Council had lined up along the road, along with the Franco-American Legion. The members of the Laliberté team directed people to designated sections under the supervision of Miss Louise Higley. All of the chairs on the field were reserved, first for the guests of honor, then the families of the deceased soldiers, the veterans and their guests, and finally those who had worked on the organizing of the event.



*Part of the crowd attending the outdoor mass*

The president of the mass committee was Mr. Alphonse Boucher, assisted by P. Alcide Pelletier, Georges E. Pelletier, and Ernest Therriault, all of whom worked tirelessly and with great success.

The veterans had assembled in uniform in the courtyard of the St. Joseph's school on Salem Street at 9:15am. At nine-thirty, more than 700 veterans from the parish began to march toward Palmer Cove Park to attend the mass, led by Joseph F. Pelletier, Jr., Commander of the Massachusetts division of the Franco-American Legion of the United States of America. Mr. Alfred P. Lebel was the assistant to the young leader of the procession.

There were 300 soldiers, 300 sailors, and 50 Marines in the procession wearing their uniforms. The color guard of the Legion also marched in the parade. The veterans were preceded by a detachment of police officers and the Crusaders drum corps from Saint Anne's in Lawrence, providing the music. From Salem Street, the parade marched down Lafayette Street to the St. Joseph's rectory, where they paused to

salute Monsignor Kelleher and twelve other priests who joined the impressive, imposing, and moving parade as it continued to Palmer Cove Park where the veterans took their seats in the special sections designated for each branch of the armed forces.

Attending the mass were the Honorable Mayor Edward A. Coffey, Representative Edmond Talbot, Mr. Wilfrid Pelletier, Secretary to Congressman George J. Bates, and representatives of local veterans organizations.

Father Eli Barnaud was the head priest, Father Eugène Vincent of Saint Anne's parish was the deacon, Father William Drapeau, pastor of Saint John the Baptist in Lynn, was the subdeacon; Rev. Father Francis Ennis, S.J., carried the mitre; Father Georges J.C. Duplessis of Saint Alphonsus in Beverly, carried the pontifical; Father Louis Bourgault of the Saint Anne parish carried the candlestick; Father Joseph Richard of the Saint John the Baptist church carried the gremial; Captain Herbert J. Léger of St. Joseph's was the master of ceremonies, and Father Alfred Julien, of St. John's Seminary, was the second master of ceremonies.

Father Léger, our veteran priest, who has since reenlisted with the U.S. Army, gave the main sermon during the mass, speaking in French to the many people in attendance. Here is the text of his eloquent sermon:

"These great festivities to celebrate your return to your homes after one of the most horrible wars could have no more auspicious beginning than at the foot of the altar. For it is here that your dear parents came to pray for your return, it is here that they came to find solace from the anguish caused by your absence. You have chosen wisely in dedicating the start of your celebrations to God, and if the world's nations had dedicated their victory to God rather than banishing him from the peace treaties, we would not be at this impasse that threatens to render all of the sacrifices of so many soldiers useless and in vain and threatens to send us into a third world war.

This day is therefore a gravely solemn one. We want the happiness we feel on seeing your return to the parish to be palpable. Your relatives and friends were very proud of you, as you can see from the Honor Roll that they placed in the shadow of our bell tower. Although they were far away from you, they followed your glorious deeds in newspapers and magazines and on the radio, and their hearts beat in unison with yours. The pastor, the vicars, the nuns, and the school children prayed to God to keep you safe from the massacres where so many young people were killed. We have been preparing these celebrations for quite some time, a testament to our pride in you. The committee and the clergy have spared no expense to make these festivities unforgettable and to demonstrate their admiration for you. They insisted on an episcopal visit to elevate the dignity of these events, a distinction greater than that of the nobility. This morning, the Church has presented to you all that is splendid and solemn, thanks to the benevolence of His Excellency Louis Francis Kelleher, and this spectacle is infinitely more eloquent than my humble words. To the relatives of those martyrs who gave their lives in defense of our country, on behalf of the parish, I offer you our most sincere condolences. Certainly, those of you who left home to go live in camps abroad, you surely felt homesick. You felt the anguish of separation, but your family members here today bore a heavier burden than you. For them, there was constant doubt. They lived with the ever-present worry that something tragic might happen to you. They eagerly awaited to receive your letters. Each day, they feared that fateful telegram announcing your death. Each day, uncertainty gnawed at them in spite of the letters they were receiving. On the other hand, we, no matter where we were whether in the mud or in the jungle, we knew we were alive, we knew our loved ones were far from danger, sheltered from the bombs. They, however, were tormented with worries.





*Father Herbert J. Léger giving the sermon*

Today, we pay tribute to them and express our profound admiration of their courage. We lived the war outside, the shellfire. They suffered the war on the inside, an infinitely more difficult one, within their hearts. So, dear family members, mothers, fiancées, friends, those who stayed behind, we extend our sympathy to you.

This morning, we joyfully celebrate your return to your homes. But, unfortunately, we have yet to be able to celebrate a return to peace in the world. As victorious as we were on the battlefield, we have been defeated in the Paris talks for world peace. The beliefs that instigated the war remain as forceful as ever. In some countries, the exact same tyranny and oppression still exist. Confusion is consuming the peace talks and threatens to unleash a third world war. The reason for this is that they are trying to write the peace treaties without consideration of God, and God has surrendered man to insanity and corruption. The divine principles form the keystone in the arch of society. Remove them and everything collapses. The scriptures are very clear on this subject. *‘Nisi Dominus edificaverit domum in vanum laboraverunt qui edificant eam.’* Peace is the work of justice. Peace is the serenity of order. It is based on justice. Only the Catholic Church, by virtue of its mission, can define international justice because It alone is impartial. I remind you of the prophecy of a great French general at the end of the last world war. ‘If the papacy is not included, there will be a return to war in twenty years.’ These are simple truths that I am repeating, but truths that are too obvious to be understood. The world seems unable to comprehend that without God there is anarchy. This is as true for individuals as it is for nations. You, my dear soldiers, you must learn this lesson. Be good Catholics and obey the Church, and I promise you will find the peace that *‘Princeps Pacis’* brought to the world in your homes and in your hearts. My wish is that of Saint Paul to



the Thessalonians. *'Ipse autem dominus pacis det vobis pacem sempiternam in omni loco.'* May the Lord of peace grant you the same peace everywhere and for all time. Amen."

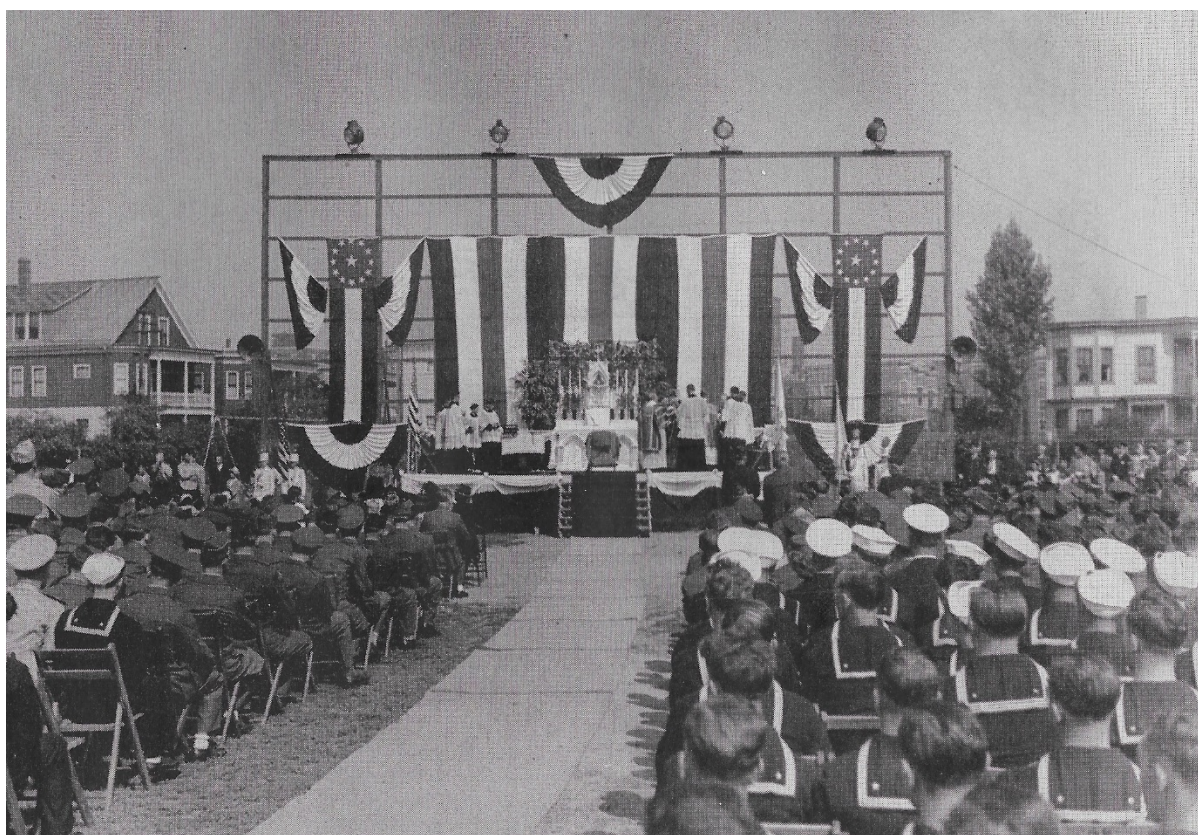
Monsignor Kelleher, speaking [in English] to the crowd at the end of the mass, said the following words in a strong, sincere and emotional voice:

"I wish to express my appreciation for the honor paid to me by the invitation extended by Rev. Fr. Barnaud and this committee to celebrate a pontifical high mass of thanksgiving here today to celebrate the return of the boys and girls of St. Joseph's parish from the wars and pray for the repose of the souls of those who fell during this struggle.

I am edified by the reverent manner in which you have assisted me today in divine worship.

Let us remember the living and thank God they have come home. Those in the service often longed for their homes and hoped that some day they would come back. It was their faith that caused them to keep this hope and return to their homes, sweethearts, wives and families. That day has been fulfilled through the providence of Almighty God.

My mass today is offered for the twenty-eight members of St. Joseph's parish who made the supreme sacrifice—those who have not come home. They died too soon, all over the world, on land, in the air and under the sea, but God will take care of them, for He is not only God of the living, but God of the dead. They have entered into their glory."



*Veterans at the solemn mass*

Bishop Kelleher paid special tribute to Rev. Fr. Léger, whom he said "went away to follow the boys at war," and also to the French-speaking people for their devotion to the church and their country.

After the brief sermon by His Excellency, an honor guard comprised of members of the Franco-American Legion, fired a three-volley salute. The bells were rung to honor the dead and the choir sang “The Star Spangled Banner” under the direction of Father Francis LeBrun, dedicating the song to those who gave their lives to protect freedom. As the procession was leaving the altar, the assistants were standing, and Monsignor Kelleher blessed the crowd.

At least 4,500 people attended this mass, which was without a doubt one of the most beautiful and most spectacular events to ever take place in the City of Salem. All the seats were filled, obviously, and there were 1,600 of them. Hundreds of people came from all over and had to stand the entire time.

All of the costs for this mass were covered by the Laurier Association, and they will be forever indebted to Fr. Herbert J. Léger for his advice, his counsel, his help and his cooperation in the detailed preparation of this great religious and patriotic event. Being a veteran himself, the committee had chosen him to give the main sermon.

There were two goals for this mass. It was offered for the youth of St. Joseph’s parish who made the supreme sacrifice for God and Country, and it was also a mass of thanksgiving for the safe return of those who made it back.

The sun was shining, and the temperature was excellent for an outdoor mass, though a few people fainted from sunstroke. Nonetheless, this mass will not soon be forgotten by the parishioners of St. Joseph’s, nor by the representatives of the various military organizations who were invited to attend by the Laurier Association.

The altar was decorated with papal colors, and a great number of flags bearing the stars and stripes blew gloriously in the wind.

### BRASS BAND CONCERT

At sunset, on that unforgettable and beautiful Sunday, September 1, 1946, a concert was performed by the brass band of the Salem American Legion. About three thousand people attended this magnificent concert, which was much appreciated and had been voted on by the City Council at the request of Mayor Edward A. Coffey.

The concert was truly superb and was held in Palmer Cove Park from 6:30 to 8:30, under the skilled direction of George A. Adams. Here is the complete program:

March, “American Eagle,” Stroup; overture, “Dawn in the Forest,” Jarrett; to those who died in service, “Adoration,” Brooks; to the returned veteran, “Salute to the Armed Forces,” and “Roses of Picardy,” with Miss Claire Aylwin as soloist, special arrangement by Adams; “Laurentian Echoes,” arrangement by Laurendreau; “United for Victory,” Benner; “Le Regiment de Sambre-Et-Meuse,” Turlet; waltz, “Nights of Gladness,” Aucliffe; excerpts from “The Merry Widow,” with Miss Aylwin as soloist, Lehar; “The Bells of St. Mary’s,” Adams, and “Victory Selections,” arrangement by Yoder.

### BANQUET

The banquet that capped off these prominent celebrations was exceptionally spectacular. The great hall of the Armory was superbly and joyfully decorated with streamers, flags, plants, with flowers on all the tables, while the table of honor, which ran the entire length of the side of the room, was decorated with baskets and bouquets of asters and chrysanthemums of many colors, with a garland running along the tablecloth made of ferns and American Beauties roses. The table settings were a sight to behold, with

glassware alternating blue and gold, and in front of each plate was a tiny American pavilion on a birch base.

## MENU

### MILITARY INSPIRATION

African Fruit Cocktail

Okinawa Roasted Turkey

Remagen Sage Stuffing

Philippine Gravy

Nagasaki Creamed Potatoes

Siegfried Line Celery

Sicilian Olives

Saipan Peas

Hiroshima Cranberry Sauce

Frankfurt Sweet Pickles

Bastogne Rolls

Rotterdam Butter

Normandy Lobster Salad

Casablanca Banana Beignets

Luxembourg Fruit Sauce

Aleutian Islands Ice Cream (Assorted Flavors)

Murmansk-Style Iced Pudding    Vanilla Ice Cream Imported from Reykjavik, Iceland

Greenland Sorbets

Newfoundland Country Club

Assorted Shanghai Petits Fours

Atlantic Macaroons

Mediterranean Cream

Pacific Coffee

Tunisian Salted Nuts

### *Acta est fabula*

Well before the official start of the banquet, at 6:30, and throughout the meal, lively music was provided by the Chase Orchestra, comprised of twenty-two musicians. The guest of honor, before proceeding into the hall, were welcomed in the Armory officers' hall by members of the committee. There was no shortage of distinguished guests, as you will see in the following:

First and foremost, Admiral Louis Emil Denfeld, today the head of the U.S. Navy having taken the place of Admiral Chester N. Nimitz as Chief of Naval Operations in November 1947. He was Vice-Admiral at the time.

Admiral Denfeld is from Westboro, Massachusetts, and said he was proud to know the North Shore very well. Not only was he born in Westboro, it is also the location of his official residence.

Since 1912, he has served his country, and he has received numerous decorations for his dedication and his expertise. He was, at the time of the banquet, Chief of the Office of Personnel of the Navy and



Deputy Chief of Naval Operations. Commander Sargent, his aide, accompanied Admiral Denfeld from Washington.



*J.F. Pelletier, Capt. Willaume, Admiral Denfeld, Hon. Francis Lacoste*

The other important guest of honor was Mr. Francis Lacoste, Minister Plenipotentiary at the French Embassy of the United States, accompanied by Mrs. Lacoste and their two lovely daughters, along with a wonderful group of officers and officials. This diplomatic group arrived directly from the Somerset Hotel in Boston, escorted by Mr. Joseph F. Pelletier Jr., state commander of the Franco-American Legion and a few other members of a special welcoming committee and the police as well.

In the group of the Minister Plenipotentiary were: Mr. Albert Chambon, Consul of France in New England and Mrs. Chambon, Captain Willaume, commander of the battle cruiser "Georges Leygues" and representative for Admiral Pothuau, Lieutenant Captain Derosé, representing the Captain Pierre Lancelot, Naval Attaché to the French Embassy in Washington D.C., Reverend Father Armand Morissette, Chaplain to the French Navy in America and Chaplain to the Franco-American Legion, Dr. M.J. Gautron, head military doctor on the battleship "Georges Leygues," Frigate Captain Baudet from the Ministry of the Navy in Paris, and several young officers.

There was also Congressman and Mrs. George J. Bates; the Honorable Edward A. Coffey, Mayor of Salem; the Honorable Raoul H. Beaudreau, Massachusetts Superior Court Judge, and his son M. Robert Beaudreau; the Honorable Emile Lemelin, New Hampshire Superior Court Judge; Mr. Ovil J. Lanoue, of Warren, Rhode Island, national Commander of the Franco-American Legion; Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred

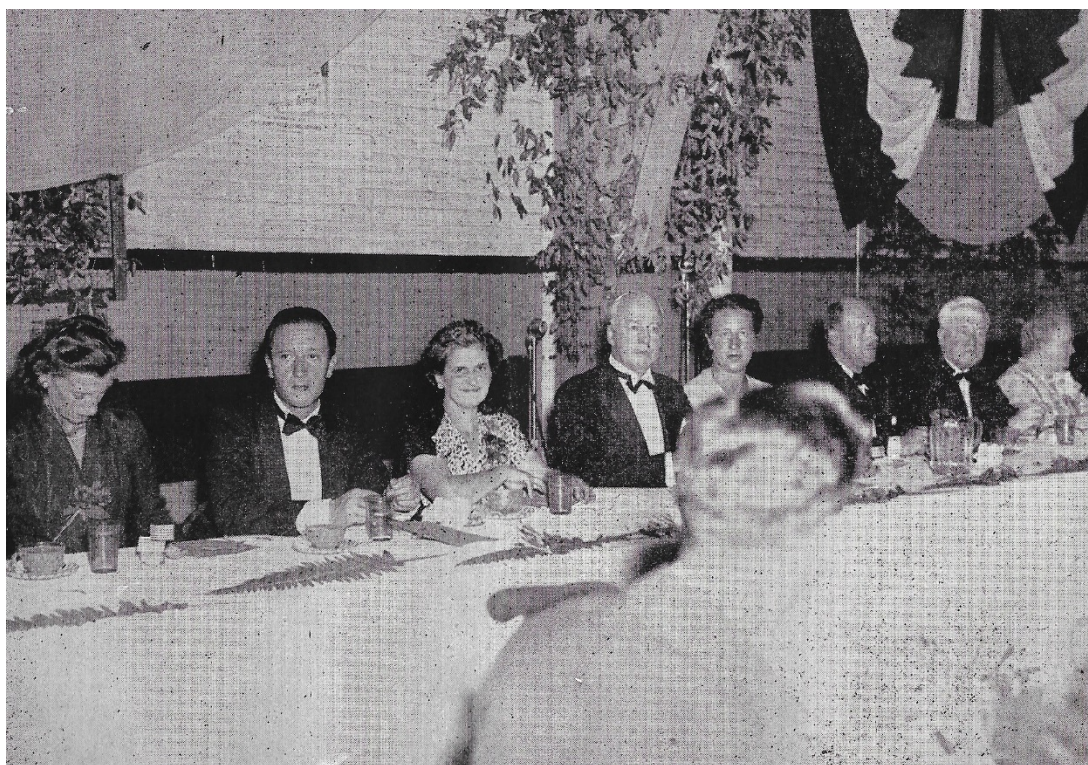
A. Pelletier; and Reverend Fathers Eli Barnaud, Georges Duplessis, Georges H. Chaput; Charles Aubut and Francis LeBrun.

At half past six, the special guests of honor, along with the officers of the Laurier Association and their companions, entered the great hall together to take their seats at the table of honor, while the orchestra played “Stars and Stripes Forever.” Much to the delight of the committee, the veterans and their guests had wanted to be in their seats for this ceremonious moment, which was indeed intoxicating.

Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier, President of the Association and master of ceremonies for the banquet, asked Captain Armand Morissette to do the blessing, and then everyone began to enjoy the excellent meal while the orchestra played a number of beautiful songs from their repertory.

The first speaker was Fr. Eli Barnaud, pastor of the parish. Then Congressman George J. Bates took a turn, followed by the Minister Plenipotentiary Francis Lacoste, then Admiral Louis E. Denfeld, Mayor Edward A. Coffey, who extended congratulations on behalf of the City, Captain Herbert J. Léger, who spoke with enthusiasm about our veterans and praised the work of the reception committee, Fr. George H. Chaput, who congratulated in particular the “famous nine” of the Laurier Association general committee, Judge Raoul H. Beaudreau, who told some amusing anecdotes, and finally Judge Emile Lemelin, who raised a toast to the ladies in the most entertaining way.

Consul Albert Chambon, who had come back from Paris by airplane to be at the party, was applauded with enthusiasm.



*Mrs. Chambon, the Honorable Albert Chambon, Mrs. Bates, the Honorable George J. Bates, Mrs. Lacoste, the Honorable Francis Lacoste, J.F. Pelletier and Mrs. Pelletier*

The evening's entertainment was enhanced by soloist Mr. Wilfrid Pelletier, our local tenor whose beautiful voice has been heard in Washington, Baltimore, and several other big cities in the United



States, and he exceeded expectations and was heartily applauded. When Admiral Louis E. Denfeld was introduced, the orchestra played “Anchors Aweigh,” in honor of the great combatant, and when Mr. Lacoste was introduced, Mr. Pelletier sang the Marseillaise, accompanied by the orchestra.



*Joseph F. Pelletier, Mrs. Pelletier, Admiral Denfeld, Captain Willaume, the Honorable Raoul H. Boudreau, R. Boudreau, Captain (Reverend) Armand Morissette*

Mr. Francis Lacoste, a first-class ambassador and appointed at his rank at the French Embassy in Washington since December 1944, was named Minister Plenipotentiary in 1945.

He is an affable and very wise man with a big smile and a soft voice, fairly short, dark-haired, born November 27, 1905 in Paris. He holds a college diploma from the École de Sciences Politiques.

He began his diplomatic career as an Embassy Attaché, editor for the central administration (trade relations), on July 1, 1929.

He became a member of the hiring committee for the job of the attaché to the chancellery on March 31, 1931, then member of the French delegation to the economic conference of the seven powers in London in July 1931.

He officially became Secretary, third class, on December 26, 1931, then went to Belgrade on January 30, 1932, then was appointed as the second Secretary in Peking on March 12, 1936, and became Secretary, second class, on July 30, 1937. Mr. Lacoste was given the distinction of Chevalier in the Légion d'Honneur in 1938.

He became Secretary, first class, in 1939 and was assigned that year to the central Administration (Undersecretary of Europe, then Secretary General).



Mr. Lacoste was called to duty from January to July 1940. He was in the Research Department of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs from October 1940 to November 1942, then became Advisor to the Embassy, second class, in 1941 and was called to duty again from April to November 1944. He was awarded the Croix de Guerre in 1945.

Admiral Louis Emil Denfeld, Chief of Naval Operations for the United States of America since November 1947, was Vice-Admiral at the time of his visit to Salem to attend the banquet and welcome reception for the veterans of St. Joseph's parish.

He was born in Westborough, Massachusetts on April 13, 1891 and was admitted to the U.S. Naval Academy from Minnesota in 1908.

He graduated and was commissioned as an Ensign in June of 1912, became Lieutenant (junior grade) on June 8, 1915, Lieutenant on June 18, 1918, and received a temporary promotion to the rank of Lieutenant-Commander during World War I, then was commissioned at that rank on June 3, 1922. He was subsequently promoted as follows: Commander, March 1, 1933; Captain, July 1, 1939, Rear-Admiral, May 16, 1942; Vice-Admiral, September 15, 1945. He served aboard the U.S.S. NEW JERSEY from May 1915 to May 1916 when he was sent to the U.S.S. AMMEN, which operated with a destroyer fleet during the World War and was stationed at Queenstown in Ireland. Released from the AMMEN in June 1918, he returned to the United States.

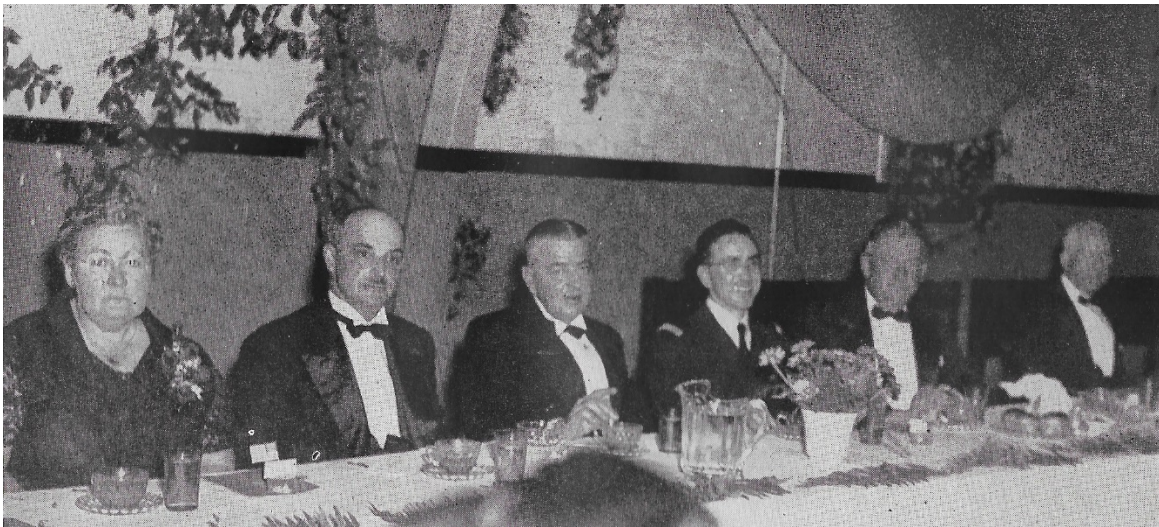
Admiral Denfeld was the Aide to the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, Navy Department, Washington D.C., from July 1929 to May 1931. He then served as Aide and General Staff Secretary for Admiral Richard Henry Leigh, U.S.N., while the latter, as Vice-Admiral, was Commander of Battleships, Battle Force, on the flagship U.S.S. VIRGINIA, from May to September 1931; and later, when he was Admiral, he became Commander-in-Chief, Battle Force, flagship U.S.S. CALIFORNIA, from September 1931-August 1932; and then when he became Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet, aboard the flagship U.S.S. PENNSYLVANIA, from August 1932 to June 1933. He was Commander, Destroyer Division II, Battle Force, on the flagship U.S.S. PERRY from July 1935 to June 1937, while he was assigned as Aide to Admiral William D. Leahy, U.S.N., Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department. Released from this post in August 1939, he served as Commander of the Destroyer Division 18 until June 1940, then as Commander of Destroyer Squadron I until January 1941. In the month of March 1941, he was a Navy special observer at the American Embassy in London, England. He then became Chief of Staff and Aide to the Commander of the Atlantic fleet beginning on April 7 until December 26, 1941, and for this service he received the Legion of Merit with honors.

On January 2, 1942, Admiral Denfeld returned to service at the Navy Department as Assistant to the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation. On May 21, 1942, he became second-in-command to the Bureau of Personnel, serving in this capacity until March of 1945. For this service, he received the Distinguished Service medal.

Admiral Denfeld was the Commander of the Battleship Division Nine from March to September of 1945. Under his command during the spring and summer of 1945, his Division, with the U.S.S. WISCONSIN as flagship during the invasion of Okinawa, was part of the rapid "Task force" that hammered away at the Japanese mainland and participated in the bombing of the Hokkaido and Honshu coastlines. For his service as Commander, he was awarded the Gold Star as a kind of second Legion of Merit.

On September 11, 1945, Vice-Admiral Denfeld was appointed by the United States Senate to the post of Chief of the Navy Bureau of Personnel and Chief of Navy Personnel for a four year term.

In addition to the Distinguished Service Medal and the Legion of Merit with a Gold Star, Admiral Denfeld wears the Mexican Service Medal (U.S.S. PEDUCAH), the Victory Medal, the Destroyers Pin (U.S.S. AMMEN), the Nicaraguan Campaign Medal, 1926 (U.S.S. BROOKS), and has earned the American Defense Service Medal, the Fleet Pin, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, and the Ribbon of the Philippine Liberation Campaign.



*Mrs. Lebel, Alfred P. Lebel, Ovila Lanoue, Lt. Derosé, Edmond Talbot Jr.,  
the Honorable Edward A. Coffey*



*Commander Saunders, Capt. (Reverend) Herbert J. Léger, Fr. George E. Chaput, the Honorable Emile  
Lemelin, Mr. Poulin, the Lacoste daughters, Mrs. Boucher, Alphonse Boucher*





*Mrs. Thériault, Ernest Thériault, Mrs. Pelletier, Wilfred Pelletier, Mrs. Bouffard, Arthur Bouffard, Mrs. St. Pierre, Adelbert St. Pierre, Fr. Francis Lebrun, Fr. George Duplessis*



*Fr. Charles E. Aubut, Mrs. Pelletier, P. Alcide Pelletier, Mrs. Lavoie, Zénon Lavoie, Mrs. Pelletier, George E. Pelletier*





## ORDER OF THE TOASTS

Master of Ceremonies

MR. JOSEPH F. PELLETIER

1. Blessing—Capt. Armand Morissette, O.M.I., Chaplain of the French Navy
2. St. Joseph's Parish—Fr. Eli J. Barnaud
3. The United States—The Honorable George J. Bates
4. France—The Honorable Francis Lacoste, French Minister Plenipotentiary, introduced by the Honorable Albert Chambon, French Consulate in Boston
5. Commonwealth of Massachusetts—The Honorable Raoul H. Beaudreau
6. The City of Salem—His Honor Mayor Edward A. Coffey
7. Our Victorious Soldiers—Admiral Louis E. Denfeld, U.S.N.
8. Our Veterans—Capt. Herbert J. Léger, Pastor
9. The Committee—Fr. George E. Chaput
10. The Ladies—The Honorable Emile Lemelin

## GUESTS OF HONOR

Admiral Pothuau, Captain Willaume, Captain Derosé, of the French Navy  
Captain Lancelot, Naval Attaché to the French Embassy in Washington, D.C.  
Commander Sargent, U.S.N., Aide to Vice Admiral Denfeld  
Fr. Paul M. Martin, Fr. Francis LeBrun, Fr. Charles E. Aubut, of St. Joseph's Parish  
Mr. Ovila Lanoue, National Commander of the Franco-American Legion

## SOLOIST

Mr. Wilfrid A. Pelletier

Music provided by the Chase Orchestra



Following are the transcripts of the presentations and main speeches<sup>24</sup> of that memorable evening:

[Introduction in French] *Our new pastor, Fr. Eli Barnaud, who replaced the dearly departed Father Vermette who was pastor when most of you entered the military.*

#### SPEECH OF FATHER ELI BARNAUD

[Speech in French] “The parish is a small world that loves mankind. The health of a parish depends on the health of a city, a state, a whole country. This health is drawn from the altar where the one who so loved mankind sacrificed himself. That’s why we, his disciples, the pastor, the clergy, we cry with you, we smile with you and we sing songs of thanks with you.

I don’t know many of you, but I love you all as a father loves and have followed you anxiously through all parts of the world on the fields of battle. That’s why I celebrated the mass of the Holy Sacrifice for you each morning and why other priests dedicated special prayers for all those who were serving in the military and fighting for our flag in foreign lands.

These grandiose festivities that have been taking place over the last three days have been like songs of thanksgiving sent to Heaven for the protections given to those who were able to return. The thirty-six souls lost are still mourned as true martyrs, as Monsignor Kelleher so rightly described in his sermon at the pontifical mass on Sunday.

These great festivities are thanks to the cooperation of your clergy and the generosity of your relatives and friends. We have had a joyous time together, but still peace eludes us. Let us pray that we all may be true soldiers as we once were during the Great War and the true soldier is he who faithfully follows the orders of his leaders. And you, my dear young people, you are Christian soldiers...always obey the orders of your leader, Jesus Christ.”



[Introduction in English] *The U.S., the land of the free and the home of the brave. Who could better answer to that toast than Salem’s illustrious son who has served his City, State and Country. He is a worthy successor to the illustrious men who have represented our district such as Coggswell, Moody and Gardner. He is one of the few congressmen who has a Franco-American as his secretary. In passing, I must say a very efficient and excellent secretary. He is, I believe, the first congressman of this district who*

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<sup>24</sup> The introductions and speeches given that evening alternate between French and English. Parenthetical notes indicate the language of each address in the original text. French texts have been translated into English. Texts in English have been reproduced as printed in the original.

*has appointed a Franco-American to the Military Academy at West Point. One of the graduates at West Point this year was a young man whose mother was a well-known Franco-American, and who had been appointed by Congressman Bates. For ten years our congressman has been on the Naval Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, being a leader for Naval Defense of our nation during the war. He knows what war is, as he had three sons and a daughter who served in the armed forces for their country, and he lost a son-in-law who was killed in action. A real patriot, a defender of democracy and a believer in justice to all regardless of race, creed or color.*

### SPEECH OF CONGRESSMAN BATES

[Speech in English] “Mr. Toastmaster, ladies and gentlemen and honored guests, Admiral Denfeld, also invited guests, and the boys and girls of Salem returning from the service that we are welcoming home tonight.

This is truly a splendid occasion. This is truly an affair that we may all very well feel proud of. This is the kind of an affair that we all want to see. This is the homecoming of the boys and girls of our own families and speaking as the parent of three of the boys and one of the girls, I can appreciate the deep feeling of gratitude that is in the hearts and in the souls of the fathers and mothers and loved ones who were first to welcome you home. Yes, there are some who are not coming home, and so far as we can, we must always keep in deep reverence and never forget the great sacrifice that they made on behalf of the afflicted people of the world, in order that we could retain freedom for those people everywhere.

It seems only yesterday, but it was one year ago today that the peace treaty was signed on the battleship Missouri, in the Tokyo Harbor. What glad tidings that brought to the people of an afflicted world. How we rejoiced in that pleasant event! How happy we were that this most devastating of all wars had finally come to an end! But lest we forget, we never want to take out of our minds the trials and the difficulties, the sacrifices and the hardships of those years. Through that period of four years, our boys and girls struggled in the sands of Africa, in the low-lands and in the mountains of European continents, on the high seas of both the Atlantic and the Pacific, the Caribbean and the Mediterranean.

It seems only yesterday, though it was four years ago this very week, that that valiant group of fighting Marines were battling it out on Guadalcanal. Yes, it was only four years ago, and within a period of only forty-eight hours they were left on their entire resources, with only the little food and the little ammunition and the weapons of war that they brought in with them. And suddenly came the battle of Guadalcanal which took from them all their material, resources and support that we could give them; and they during a period of twenty-seven days, with no help whatsoever, that band of fighting marines on Guadalcanal brought victory to our cause in the South Pacific.

Then the boys of the army, through the Solomons and the Gilberts and the Marriannas and Okinawa and finally Tokyo Bay, one year ago today.

Let us not forget that four years ago this very month, we only had one aircraft carrier in the whole Pacific, and through the hard work of the men and women back home in the factories and industries of this country finally came the ammunition and the guns, the weapons of war, the battleships and aircraft carriers, the cruisers, which finally gave our boys and our girls some opportunity to save their own lives and eventually to bring victory to our cause. Yes, my friends, these were the perilous days when our fighting allies, some of whom are here tonight, representing the great nation of France, coming from the great battleship the “George Leygues” who fought all the way with us in order that victory may come



again to our cause, and for liberty to prevail again for the people of the world. If we are to gain any lessons at all from the great sacrifice that we have made in this war, it is the lesson of being prepared.

We have with us tonight the Chief of Naval Personnel, the man who is at the head of the entire personnel of the United States Navy, who has given us his time to come here to tell us about the difficult tasks performed by the American Navy and our fighting troops in bringing back freedom to those far off lands. Nobody knows the hour or the day that we will need again the fighting forces of this country to preserve our security and to preserve liberty that we paid such a terrific sacrifice for. See to it that the men and women who represent you in the great representative power of this country be prepared. Let us be prepared, let us maintain a strong army and navy. Let us carry on as President Theodore Roosevelt, by carrying a big stick, and speaking softly, and make the rest of the world realize that the people of this country want a permanent and enduring peace. And let us also give our full support to those men who are representing us in Paris today through the United Nations Organization, and who are struggling to establish a permanent peace in this world once more. Those are the thoughts that I wish to leave with you tonight. To those boys and girls who have been doing the fighting in the far off lands these last four years, let us hope and pray that the sacrifices that you have made, as well as those of the ones who are not coming back, shall not be in vain.”

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[Introduction in French] *The friendship that exists between France and the United States dates back to the day that Lafayette and Rochambeau came to help the American Colonies in fighting for their independence. This friendship was also proven when American soldiers fought side by side with the French during the First and Second World Wars.*

*Our Franco-American population has always maintained a strong attachment to France, and it is an honor to have Captain Willaume and Captain Derosé, both from the French Navy, here to join us tonight.*

*As its special representative, France has sent us the Honorable Minister Plenipotentiary Francis Lacoste. A statesman, a diplomat, an active member of the Resistance, a devout Catholic who solidified the relationship between France and the United States through his passion and dedication, it is my pleasure to introduce the Honorable Francis Lacoste.*

[Speech in French] Members of the clergy, Mr. Mayor, esteemed Judges, Admiral, Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen.

If I did not know how much the French Ambassador to Washington would have loved to have been here this evening, I would be selfishly rejoicing the fact that urgent matters prevented him from leaving the capital, providing me with the honor of replacing him. But aware of his regrets, and guessing your own, I can only tell you of his sincere wish to visit your wonderful community at a later date, perhaps for another auspicious occasion like the one that brings us here tonight; and I will discretely hide the great personal satisfaction I feel to be counted among you for this delightful celebration.

I called this an auspicious occasion; and it is truly a joyous one, but not a noisy and superficial joy, a joy that is serious and profound, the joy of soldiers coming together after the war to celebrate their happy return with relatives and friends, their elders looking on along with their spiritual, military and civic leaders. For those of you who felt the sadness of departure, the uncertainty of tomorrows, the poignant anguish that is often felt in those difficult minutes just before the launch of an attack, even if the moment passed as quickly as a flash; for those who suffered a long expatriation and glimpsed the swift grip of

danger; for them, the return, returning home, returning to those most cherished in all the world, returning to the homeland, returning to one's country, this return is one of immense and thankful joy. *"Bienvenus au pays!"* Welcome home, welcome back! These simple words, familiar words that welcomed you in gigantic letters on hangars in the ports, on airfield runways, in energetic shouts or softly whispered from the lips of those who stayed behind, these words have meaning! You returned from far across the seas, you accomplished something so wonderful yet so grave, and you so ardently yearned for this moment for so long! Realizing it seemed almost unrealistic; and yet it grew in value as time passed. It is this precise moment, this moment without awards, this supreme end that is in truth a beginning, this is what we are here to celebrate this evening. Doubtless, your thoughts have turned to those who are no longer with us, whose reserved seats are empty. Their absence is palpable. Our fallen soldiers are with us tonight, however, in our hearts.

It is a great deed, certainly, to return from such a formidable mission. But it is even greater because it ended in a decisive victory. With the cooperation of your fellow Americans, along with soldiers from Canada, the British Commonwealth, Russia, France, and all your allies, you won this war. The stakes were high. Freedom and life throughout the world were in jeopardy. The greatest spiritual values were in jeopardy. You saved them, and you did not just save them for yourselves but for others, even though the threats may have seemed far removed. By saving others who were on the cusp of destruction, you saved yourselves, for you would not have been able to survive their annihilation. You saved that which was essential, a universal heritage that belongs to all nations and all men. Might I add that you not only saved the world's legacies, but you also helped enormously to reclaim a country that has, throughout history, produced, developed and celebrated them? France, which many of you consider to be the land of your ancestors, is just recovering from one of the worst blows in its history. We like to think that among the many generous hands extended to help us, yours were among the best.

Many of you, however, extended this assistance without ever having set foot in France. In this tremendous torment, your efforts, which all aimed towards the same goal, crisscrossed the globe to the most isolated seas, the most barren lands. Those who fought on the sands of Africa, those who suffered through the Asian jungles, those who guarded the most deserted islands, the most exposed outposts, those who tirelessly crossed the skies and the seas to keep the lines of passage open for the most powerful armies the world has ever seen, you have all participated in the liberation of each of the countries oppressed by the enemy.

But those of you who had, dare I say, the luck to fight on French soil, you, I'm sure, will recognize the feeling of having found something of yourselves there, a spiritual place where you felt at home, an environment that revealed a profound part of yourselves that you were also just discovering. In the old capital, thankfully spared despite the combat for its liberation, as well as in the countryside or in smaller cities, some teeming with life while others recoil in contemplation, you breathed in new air which somehow seemed familiar. Despite the profound troubles caused by the war and enemy occupation, in a France still wounded, you found or felt a spiritual, intellectual, moral connection that felt like home because it was the home that your forefathers carried within them long ago. And believe it or not, French visitors from France feel the same joy when they breathe the air here, when they find the feeling of home, and when they are surprised and amazed to feel it in a way that is more lively and more fresh. Certain traits have matured and have sharpened in France; others remained, becoming stronger and more forceful here. Your originality is asserted and distinguished here, without losing any of its frank and healthy "Americanness," if such a neologism may be used.

Sirs, what you were barely able to discern at the moment when the horrible stranglehold on France's throat was just beginning to loosen after five years of your blows and ours and those of our allies; what began in front of your eyes, slowly and with much difficulty on our part, was the resurgence of France, which I am happy to declare is now in full force. With the return of our prisoners and our soldiers, and the revival of the importation of necessary materials and industrial activity in the country, work, which was for so long interrupted or diverted from its normal path, has been able to resume according to French tradition. The country farmer had never ceased to labor; his work compensated for the many imports that normally supplemented the nation's food supply. But now, wherever there is sufficient power, factory workers are working around the clock. Production, production to clothe the entire population, to manufacture the most basic necessities that have been cruelly lacking for so many months, that is what is happening in all the industries in France today. The ridiculous tale that the French had become lazy, spread by superficial observers and mean-spirited propagandists in order to bolster foreign interests, is being dispelled. The French are working, wherever possible, and working, dare I say, voluptuously, knowing now that their toils will not be exploited in order to reduce them to slavery but rather to contribute directly and fully to the health of the country and to its return to a world economy where each must do his part for the prosperity of all. With peace, God willing, today's France needs two essential things to return to its full force. The first thing is a source of energy that no current alternatives have been able to replace on a large scale in the European economic world: I speak of coal. Before the war, France was already importing a considerable percentage of its coal consumption. And production in Europe has considerably declined since the start of the war. France has done its share: our miners are the only ones in the world to be producing more than in 1938; they are currently at 105% of the average monthly production for this year, while elsewhere in Europe production is only at 70%. France is demanding more coal from Germany. We do not think this is too much to ask of a country that led the world into the worst catastrophe in history and almost led us to the brink of destruction.

The other thing the French economy needs is credit, so that France can procure, especially from the United States, the raw materials and modern tools needed to get back on track and modernize our industrial equipment. The agreements signed earlier this summer will now allow us to take an important step in this direction. Let us hope that the means needed to achieve the goals will be provided in time.

Sirs, I have spoken for quite some time, perhaps for too long, on a subject dear to my heart. I thought that it might be of interest to you. The restoration effort I have described is in part of your doing: you helped to lay the first stone. The country I am talking about is still a bit your country, since it was the country of your forefathers—and your desire to have a representative from France at your celebrations tells me of your continued interest. Here, I see one of the most important manifestations of a powerful feeling that I find to be as useful as it is beautiful, that is, Franco-American friendship.

So, you understand my delight in saluting the good architects, the courageous champions of this cause, your spiritual leaders, your directors, the heads of your associations. Catholics, Franco-Americans, members of the Franco-American Legion, members of the Laurier Association, veterans' associations, you are, by definition, France's friends, for all of the aforementioned affiliations link you to France—friends in spirit, friends in our hearts, friends in our souls. Sirs, let us not forget that the thread that holds us together is language, the French language, which you have had the good taste and the wisdom to cultivate, that your priests have so admirably instilled in you from a young age in your parochial schools, a language that is rich and powerful and that places you who speak it among the best defenders of the friendship between our two countries.



## SPEECH BY THE HONORABLE EDWARD A. COFFEY, MAYOR OF SALEM

[Speech in English] Mr. Toastmaster, reverend fathers, distinguished guests, and my fellow Americans. It is a distinct pleasure for me to extend to the veterans of St. Joseph's Parish of Salem, a welcome home to the city of Salem. The official welcome that I extend to you is that same warm and wholesome welcome that you have already received. It is a hug and a kiss from a mother, or sister and a hearty handshake from a father or a brother. It is that same happy welcome that you have received on the streets of Salem from your friends, that same welcome that you received from the boys at the clubs or the societies to which you may belong. It is the same welcome that you have received from a fellow veteran, a buddy, when you enthusiastically discussed with him your whereabouts in this great struggle. Some of you were across together and others perhaps were thousands of miles apart. But, no doubt, some incidents flashed through your minds as you greeted each other.

The official welcome is a welcome that is somewhat difficult to define, but quite easy to understand. It is the official welcome home that suggests that each of you take up where you left off, when you left to enter the service, and that you continue to be a part of our Salem. No doubt I will see many of you at various times as we go about the City or attend different functions in our City, and I will be able to express to you personally this welcome that we are now making official. Our citizens will join with you in trying to make our City your happy home.

For some no such an official welcome can be given, for they have made the supreme sacrifice. No doubt, they look happily down upon us tonight and join spiritually in this welcome home.

I feel that all of you will understand that no long speech of welcome is necessary. I hope this official welcome will remain with you forever. For we who remained at home while you were away are fortunate. Each of us did our part. No matter where or when it was required, the citizens of Salem did all they could to aid the War Effort. But without you their efforts would be without success. And without your courage, ability and Sacrifice, we would never have been permitted to enjoy this happy occasion. Salem shall ever be grateful to each of you.

May I, at this time, repeat what I have said on many similar occasions, let us visit our churches frequently and join each other in silent prayer, a prayer of remembrance for our absent veterans, a prayer of thanksgiving for those who have returned and a prayer of hope that from this day on, Peace directed by God, shall ever reign upon this earth.

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[Introduction in English] *We are honored by having with us this evening Vice Adm. Louis E. Denfeld of the U.S.N.. Born in Massachusetts, the birthplace of the American Navy, it was natural for him to choose the sea as a career. Since graduating from Annapolis he has risen to the rank of Vice Admiral. A veteran of World Wars I and II and a real fighting man. As commander of Battleship Division 9, he operated in support of the Okinawa landing. His division, as part of a fast task force, bombarded the Japanese home island of Honshu and Hokkaido. His forceful leadership in combat was a contributing factor in the success of the operations which immediately preceded the surrender of Japan. Holder of the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with gold star and a number of other decorations. In recognition of outstanding services to his country, the U.S. Senate on September 11, 1945, confirmed him as chief of the Bureau of Naval Personnel.*

SPEECH BY ADMIRAL LOUIS E. DENFELD, U.S.N.

[Speech in English] Veterans, Members of the St. Joseph Parish, and other distinguished Guests:

It is certainly a coincidence that I should have the privilege of welcoming home you veterans of World War II on the very day after the Navy completed its mass demobilization of more than 3,000,000 men and women.

Your magnificent performance of duty and service to our country in this war cannot adequately be expressed in words. You have won the profound respect and admiration of every professional officer. You have earned the undying gratitude of our nation, and of every nation threatened by the forces of tyranny and oppression.

You have blasted from the face of the earth the shackles of fear, tyranny and dictatorship. You have left in its place, wherever you went, the seeds of Democracy. The world now looks to America, to YOU, to nurture those seeds of freedom to worship, freedom from want, freedom from greed and avarice.

But—in the flush of our victory and the joy of our home-coming, we must not forget that, just as a farmer must ever be alert to combat the many threats which endanger his crop, so must WE be prepared to protect the ideals for which you fought—and for which 28 men of this parish gave their lives.

We are committed not only to the defense of our own ideals but to the mutual protection of our neighbors in this hemisphere; and now, within the framework of the United Nations, to the preservation of peace throughout the world.

Your navy, together with our brothers in arms the army, is pledged to support our country's foreign policies with firmness and restraint. A number of years ago Admiral Mahan stated the principle that force underlies all diplomacy. The strength of our arms is still the best insurance against attack and will so remain until by the spread of education and enlightenment we have built a better civilization.

We who know war for the terrible and destructive evil that it is do not want another. For that very reason—until the United Nations organization can assure the preservation of worldwide peace—we are determined to maintain sufficient might to lend firm support to the strength of our convictions. The navy must continue to be the gauntlet of mail beneath the velvet glove of statesmanship. And our strength lies not in the size of the ships, their armor or their destructive fire power, but in the men who man our ships and planes. Of course, it is vital that we provide our men with best and most modern machines. But our most advanced weapons of today would be of little value in our defense if the men who serve them had not the same courage which won the many glorious victories of the past—Victories which have woven for us an invisible tapestry of tradition. It is the men themselves who make the navy a powerful fighting machine in war and the guardian of our freedom in peace.

The army and navy, the appointed guardians of your freedom, must have your unwavering support if they are to remain effective. But—I don't need to emphasize to you of Salem, a city so rich in naval tradition, the vital importance of a strong navy. Salem has written a glowing page in every chapter of the navy's history to date.

For example, you will remember that, in the early days of the American Revolution, Captain Richard Derby repulsed the enemy at Salem Bridge. Captains Jonathan Haraden and John Fisk harassed enemy shipping as privateers bearing letters of marque. A destroyer of this war was named for Captain Haraden.

In the war of 1812, when the navy desperately needed ships, 172 were provided and of these Salem contributed 40—almost one-quarter of the total. Another Salem naval hero, Benjamin Upton, commanded the “Montgomery,” in a major engagement against the British packet “Surinan” outside this very harbor.<sup>25</sup>

In World War II, Salem sent 6,500 men and women to fight for our freedom, to follow in the footsteps of their illustrious forbearers. This parish contributed 1,540 of this number, almost one-quarter of Salem’s total contribution.

I should like to pay tribute to another great patriot of Salem—your former mayor, the Honorable George J. Bates. He has carried your traditions in the halls of congress, working untiringly in support of the navy throughout the war. As a member of the naval affairs committee, he has continued to be a staunch supporter of a postwar navy adequate to assure the preservation of the great ideals for which you and I fought and are pledged to maintain.

Tonight, we are gathered here in honor of you who have just returned to your homes and church. I am sure that each of you must have many amusing anecdotes to relate to your families. Perhaps you have a couple about demobilization. Here’s one I don’t believe you’ve heard.

A young man at Pearl Harbor whose points were up had just been detached and assigned passage back to the States. Before leaving, he went back to operations to say “so long” to the fellows with whom he had worked.

He had stood a phone watch in that office. Well, the phone rang while he was goodbying, and he decided to make his last act in the office one that would long be remembered. He walked over to the phone, lifted the receiver, and, without waiting for the caller to speak, bellowed “tell your troubles to the chaplain” and hung up.

In a few seconds, the phone rang again. The man on watch, with some misgivings, gingerly picked up the receiver. The voice on the other end of the wire said, “Look, I called a moment ago and before I could so much as open my mouth someone bellowed at me to tell my troubles to the Chaplain.”

Getting no reply from the frightened young man, the voice said, “Well—I’m the District Chaplain!”

It is an honor to have been invited to this festive homecoming, and I have greatly enjoyed being with you this evening.

We have just concluded a bitter battle for the very existence of our freedom. Many of your friends and my friends sacrificed their lives that our American way of life might survive. To each of you now falls the responsibility of assuring that this nation’s defenses remain ever strong to protect and maintain that freedom.

Be wise in your choice of men to represent you in government. Make your carefully considered opinions known to them. Take an active and continuing interest in our “Government of the people, by the people and for the people.” Carry out your responsibilities as citizens with the same indomitable spirit with which you fought and won the victory.

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<sup>25</sup> Research indicates that the text seems to refer to HMS Surinam and that the engagement took place (under Upton’s command) near Surinam, not Salem.



In your lives now as civilians, in the years ahead, I wish you the very best of good fortune, success and happiness.

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[Introduction in English] *To the next speaker belongs a great measure of credit for the celebration that is now coming to a close. He was appointed by the late Fr. Vermette as spiritual director of the Laurier Association. He was the guiding spirit in our drive to raise funds for this celebration and for the erection of a monument. Although his stay among us was of short duration, he had earned the love and respect of the parishioners. When he departed from Salem to become a pastor in Hudson, he left with the good wishes of all who knew him. Especially the members of the Committee and it is a pleasure to welcome once again the Rev. George E. Chaput who I now have the honor of presenting to you.*

#### SPEECH BY REV. GEORGE E. CHAPUT

[Paragraph in French] During the time I spent at St. Joseph's, people accused me of speaking too loudly into the microphone. This evening, I will do my best to be heard without the use of a microphone. I was recently asked to speak about the committee and to do so in English. I am happy to oblige this request.

[Speech in English] I don't remember exactly how many people there were in the United States at the time of Abe Lincoln, but it is safe to say that there must have been very many people here in those days. Every year we read in our papers a piece about some old lady who still remembers "Honest Abe Lincoln". Remembers him from the time she was a very little girl. Is it not wonderful that a man should rise to such great fame in so little a time? That is, from the time he rose to fame to the time that he was shot. Now you know what causes this: Abe Lincoln always remained one of the folks. He was not so smart or so educated, he was just naturally himself. Everything he said the folks could understand, and moreover they understood just why he said it. He was forever trying to do right and that is why he was right the greater part of the time.

Now an incident that is just a few weeks old brought this to mind. A little while ago, I chanced to meet a very hearty handshaking politician who enunciated very strongly about government taxes and the people's choice of a president. I asked him why he did not voice those words and opinions publicly and thereby save his constituents. "Why, father," he said, "that would not be expedient." After he had left, I thought most seriously about those words. "It would not be expedient," he said. And then I realized why some of us today are like old "Honest Abe Lincoln" and why some of us are not. Some of us like Lincoln think of what is right and we do it, and others think of what is expedient, they think of what is good politics and do that; but they fail to remember that expediency and good politics are temporary, they are not lasting. Only rightfulness is lasting, only rightfulness is ethical.

A short while ago one of our American diplomats coming to the Prince of Wales, asked him "Well, Prince, what do you think of civilization?" The Prince replied, "Why, my dear man, I think civilization is a wonderful idea. Why does not someone start it?" Well, thank God we have in this very parish some people who have started this civilization. People who acted unflinchingly for what is right and not what is expedient and good politics; people who in their own small and inimitable way strive for civilization in terms of real liberty; real equality and real fraternity. Democracy in one word, for one and for all, that democracy is based upon the great and original demands toward Americans who aim to make value of a soul. So, to these men, these great men of your committee, real he-men one and all, men after the heart of the eldest son of our great American republic, old "Honest Abe Lincoln", men always to be remembered in this parish, and even abroad, men through whose efforts these great festivities in honor

of the return of our great heroes, were made possible, I lift my hat tonight. And you, my dear people, I say, hear the men of this committee and follow them in all things. They are your leaders and thereby you yourselves shall become worthy followers of the eldest son of our great republic “Honest Abe Lincoln”, who shall forever be remembered.

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Eloquent speeches were also given by the Honorable Raoul H. Boudreau, who made a toast to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; by Fr. Herbert J. Léger, who toasted our veterans; and by the Honorable Emile Lemelin, Superior Court Judge for the State of New Hampshire, who toasted the ladies.

The banquet committee included Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier, president, Mr. Alfred P. Lebel and Mr. Zenon A. Lavoie; although they seemed somewhat tired, they were very happy with the success of the event. One of the most remarkable things was that each and every one of the invited speakers had accepted the invitation and was present to make their speeches. This was the crowning jewel of the three days of festivities organized by the Laurier Association to welcome home the veterans of St. Joseph’s parish in Salem. This event will be remembered by the veterans for quite some time, and the officers and members of the Laurier Association chose this as their way to express their gratitude and sincere appreciation for our veterans’ service to God and Country.

There remained only one thing for the Association to do: to erect and dedicate a monument commemorating the service of the men and women of St. Joseph’s parish.



## Chapter V

### DEDICATION OF THE MONUMENT

“TIME WILL NOT DIM THE GLORY OF THEIR DEEDS.” This simple phrase inscribed on the base of the monument erected in Lafayette Park, across from St. Joseph’s church in Salem, Massachusetts, will forever recall the contributions of the 2,105 parishioners of St. Joseph’s church who served in the two World Wars and will serve as a lasting reminder of the gratitude of all of the parishioners, their relatives and their friends.

The dedication ceremony was held on a beautiful Sunday afternoon, October 19, 1947 in front of a crowd of several thousand attendees, but the blessing was postponed until a later date when Major Herbert J. Léger, who had re-enlisted in the Army and was serving as chaplain to the occupation troupes in Europe, would be back in the United States.

It was the first time since V-J Day that a monument of this kind had been erected in this part of the country, and the unveiling generated a lot of interest.

The Laurier Association had been planning for this for a long time. First, they obtained permission from the Parks Commissioners of the City of Salem to erect a monument in Lafayette Park. Given that some opposition had arisen from other parties, the officers of the Association had to have quite a few meetings with the Parks Commissioners. On July 10, 1945, the commissioners voted to allow the erection of a monument in Lafayette Park, provided that the design be approved by the Art Commission and the Parks Commission. The committee then hired the eminent Franco-American architect from Worcester, Massachusetts, Norman D. Nault, to design the monument. Mr. Nault graduated from the School of Architecture at Harvard University and was the recipient of numerous awards from architecture competitions.

Mr. Nault submitted the sketches to the Committee and then the committee had to obtain approval from the Art Commission. There were only two Art Commissions in the entire state of Massachusetts: the Art Commission of the City of Boston, which could only legally approve works destined for the City of Boston, and the Art Commission for the state of Massachusetts, whose legal charge was to study and approve or not works of art relative to the state government. The committee knew that it was impossible to have the work approved by the Art Commission of the City of Boston; their only hope was to have the Massachusetts Art Commission approve it. While the state Art Commission was not forbidden from approving works not related to state government, until that time, it had never approved any privately funded works of art. The president of the Massachusetts Art Commission, Dr. George H. Edgell, director of the Museum of Fine Arts, agreed to submit Mr. Nault's plans to the Commission if the Committee first obtained permission from Governor Tobin.

It was, therefore, necessary to meet with Governor Tobin to obtain his permission to submit Mr. Nault's plans for study and possible approval by the State Art Commission. Once the situation was fully explained to him, Governor Tobin allowed the State Art Commission to review the designs of the architect Mr. Nault.

On December 27, 1946, the Massachusetts State Art Commission, presided over by Dr. Edgell, considered the sketches, designs, and models submitted by Mr. Nault and, after having seen the site where the monument would be erected, announced to the officers of the Laurier Association that the sketches, designs, and models submitted by Mr. Nault were approved by its members by virtue of the artistic and architectural design of the monument, and they also found the site to be well chosen. The Commission suggested that the monument be built in granite and that a skilled sculptor be hired to assure that the final product would be faithful to the plans.

Mr. Joseph Coletti of Boston, a skilled and gifted sculptor and one of the leaders of his profession in this country, was hired as sculptor. The designs, models and specifications were then sent out to several good granite companies in this part of the United States for bids. The lowest bid was from the Emile Bielli Company in Quincy, Massachusetts. The monument was constructed in blue-gray granite, "Rock of Ages" from Barre, Vermont. It was cut and chiseled by Mr. Panfilo DiBona, assisted by Mr. Guy Braganti. The base is four feet by two feet, and the statue is thirty feet high. All together it weighs thirty tons. The model was seven feet high.

This monument is not only a work of art but also unique in terms of its construction. The title is "Mourning Victory" or "*La Victoire du Deuil*." It does not glorify war, but rather shows the tragedy, nobility, dignity and selflessness of those who fought. It marks a conceptual turning point in the history of



these types of works. As the sculptor Mr. Coletti said, “this monument was not made to glorify war or any part of war.”

The fundamental idea of this monument is to signify, inspire, and stimulate the concept of heroism in the minds of those who see it, and to pay homage to the dignity, heroism, and sacrifice of those who served and died during the two World Wars. This concept is expressed by the central figure who, with an immobile sword held at attention, weeps for the dead, a lesson and a reminder that war is futile and tragic for both the victors and the vanquished; thus the title, “Mourning Victory.” The crown of laurels on her head is a symbol of both victory and peace, and the wings signify the inscription that can be read on the base: “TIME WILL NOT DIM THE GLORY OF THEIR DEEDS” (*Le temps ne diminuera pas la gloire de leurs exploits*).



*The officers of the Laurier Association and their guests on the platform for the dedication of the monument*

On the front of the base of the monument are the dates “1917-1918” and “1941-1945.” On the back of the base, it says: “Dedicated to the 2,105 men and women of St. Joseph Parish who served in World Wars I and II for God and Country.”

Mr. Norman D. Nault, the famous architect from Worcester, Massachusetts and creator of the original design for the monument, went through the parochial schools of Worcester then to Assumption College, also in Worcester. He specialized in architecture in the School of Architecture of Harvard, in Cambridge. After completing his studies, he started a company with his father and brother, G.E. Nault



and Sons of Worcester. They specialize in building churches and schools. In a competition for the design of a library in Worcester, Mr. Normal D. Nault won first prize. That library cost over a million dollars.

Mr. Joseph A. Coletti is world-renowned. He is one of the best sculptors in the country. He studied at the Massachusetts Art School and Harvard University and studied under the great masters of the United States and Europe. His works have won many prizes and awards. He is the sculptor of the statue of Ferdinand Gagnon, a great French-Canadian patriot.

Concerning the Emile Bielli company of Quincy, Massachusetts, their workshops are known for the many works of art in granite they regularly produce.



*Part of the large crowd looking on immediately after the unveiling of the monument by Miss Lorraine Turcotte*

The original date proposed for the unveiling of “Mourning Victory” was Sunday, June 22, 1947 while the Massachusetts division of the Franco-American Legion would be holding its convention in our City of Salem, but due to a thirteen-week strike by granite workers, it was impossible to obtain the monument for that day. But since work resumed and progress was made, it was finally decided to hold the dedication on Sunday afternoon, October 19, 1947.

The committee sent invitations to all the veterans of our parish to attend the dedication. A thousand chairs were placed in the park for veterans, members of the Association, and representatives of different

veterans organizations in the City. Practically all the veterans associations in the City were there, represented by a delegation and carrying their flags. The stage for the speakers was set up on the corner of Lafayette and Washington streets, and was festively decorated. There was a concert from 2pm to 3pm by the Rigby military band. Here is the program:

“Stars and Stripes Forever,” Sousa; selection from “Faust,” Gounod; “La Rive du St-Laurent,” Laurendeau; “Marche du Défilé National,” Turllet; overture “Light Cavalry,” Von Suppe; “Marche La Victorieuse,” Ganne; pot-pourri of war songs, World War II; “Tales from Vienna Woods,” Strauss; “Marche Lorraine,” Ganne.

At three o’clock, there was a moment of silence and the bells tolled at all the churches and schools to honor all those from Massachusetts who died at war. This was done at the request of the new head of state government, Governor Robert F. Bradford.

At three o’clock, Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier, president, began the ceremony. At that hour, there were about seven thousand people in attendance. Attorney Pelletier invited Miss Cécile Lachance of Salem, a very gifted young soprano singer, to sing God Bless America, accompanied by the brass band. On the platform among the invited guests of honor, there was U.S. Senator Henry Cabot Lodge Jr.; Baron Louis de Cabrol, Vice-Consul of France, and his mother the Baroness of Cabrol, were also present; the Honorable Mayor Edward A. Coffey; Father George Duplessis, pastor in Beverly; and Father Francis LeBrun, vicar of St. Joseph’s parish, who was given a standing ovation by the crowd, showing their appreciation for the work he did on behalf of the parish’s veterans, in cooperation with the Laurier Association.

Also on the platform for guests of honor were members of the City Council, members of the Parks Commission, along with the architect Mr. Norman D. Nault and the sculptor Mr. Joseph A. Coletti. Among them could also be found the Honorable William Phillips, our ex-Ambassador to France and Italy who was also the Undersecretary of State; Miss Catherine W. Lane, member of the Art Commission for the State of Massachusetts; Mr. Frederick C. Bartlett, trustee of the Museum of Modern Art in New York; the Honorable John Nicholas Brown, Assistant Secretary of the Navy air force; Mr. Francis H. Taylor, director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; members of the press from Boston, New York, and other cities; Mr. Joseph G. Chouinard, Commander of the Massachusetts division of the Franco-American Legion of the United States; and several other members of the Legislature.

Since many of the attendees did not know French, the ceremony was conducted in English. The president, Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier, explained the reason for the event in the following brief speech:

“We are assembled here to dedicate a memorial to 2,105 men and women of St. Joseph’s Parish who served in the Armed Forces of our country in World Wars I and II. This memorial has been erected by the Association Laurier. The Association was organized at the instigation of our late and beloved Pastor, the Reverend Father Vermette. Under his inspiring leadership and with his full cooperation, the three hundred men and women of our organization devoted their time and energy to the welfare of our boys and girls in the Armed Forces and to the raising of funds to erect this memorial.

I want to take this occasion to express to you, the members of the Association Laurier, my sincere appreciation and thanks for the service you have rendered. You have today completed your work by erecting a monument that will be an everlasting reminder of the patriotism of the men and women of St. Joseph’s Parish.



2,105 of our boys and girls left their homes and their loved ones to serve God and Country. Forty of our boys never returned. Each and every one a hero gave their lives so that right would triumph over might and that liberty and freedom would prevail over tyranny.”

Attorney Pelletier then invited Miss Lorraine Turcotte, daughter of the deceased Pierre J. Turcotte who was one of the first members of the parish to give his life for his country during World War II, to unveil the monument. Pierre J. Turcotte lost his life on the battlefield at Remagen, in Germany.

Miss Turcotte was escorted from the platform to the monument by the vice-president of the Association, Mr. Alphonse Boucher. She was preceded by all the color bearers and color guards of the veterans’ organizations, who surrounded the monument while the young woman pulled the cord to unveil the magnificent work of memorial art.

Miss Turcotte then laid four American Beauty roses at the base of the monument to commemorate the four boys from our parish who sacrificed their precious lives defending our Country.

The president then made the following announcement: “The honor of blessing this monument had been granted to a priest who is well-loved and respected by all, particularly by the G.I.’s with whom he served. He can not be here with us today because he reenlisted to serve with the soldiers he loves so much, but promises that he will be happy to bless this monument when he returns from the European theater. The officers of the Association have decided that the honor of blessing this monument will be reserved for our Major, Father Herbert J. Léger, upon his return from Europe.”

The main speaker was U.S. Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr. Senator Lodge was supposed to have left for Europe on October 15, as a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, but due to his friendliness with the officers of the Association, he put off his departure until just after the dedication of the monument. At the end of the ritual part of the ceremony, Attorney Pelletier introduced the Senator with the following words [in English]:

“As principal speaker the officers of the Association wanted a Gentleman, a Statesman and a Soldier. There was one man with all these qualifications who stood out among all others. He is our neighbor and our friend. He is the only man since the Civil War to resign his seat in the United States Senate to enter the Armed Forces of his Country. The people of his city sent him to the Massachusetts Legislature. We of Massachusetts have elected him three times to the United States Senate, and the people of the country at large are awaiting to bestow greater honors upon him. Ladies and Gentlemen, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.”

#### ADDRESS OF SENATOR HENRY CABOT LODGE, JR.

[Speech in English] We are met here today to dedicate this monument which is symbolic of our love for the young men of this parish who gave their lives that this country and all it stands for, might still live.

In one brief moment these men, young in years, reached a height of unselfish devotion and made a contribution to our country which the rest of us, as old people at the end of many years of effort, will probably not equal. They have given all their lives, we can give but a part of ours.

We have the duty, therefore, of keeping faith with them. Indeed, we will actually be guilty of breaking a promise if we fail to strive by every means in our power to make this country live up to all the magnificent things for which it stands and to make it equal those great expectations which were in the minds of these young men, whose memory we revere today.

What exactly do we mean? We mean, of course, that America shall rise to its opportunities in material things—that there shall be enough food and shelter and clothing for all, in ample measure, and that our children may be strong and healthy and grow up to vigorous maturity. We mean further that there shall be some security against the hazards which threaten everyone's life—the hazard of unemployment, the hazard of old age and the hazard of war.



*Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr. giving the main speech at the dedication of the monument*

We also mean more than these things—more than a land which is generous materially and which provides some security. We mean a land of opportunity too—opportunity to get a job and start a business, the opportunity to say and do as you please and not be herded together and pushed around and given orders and told what to think. It was only a few years ago that we could take this kind of a land for granted. But today so much of the world has been or is still under the domination of a dictatorship that it makes us realize afresh what a wonderful thing we have here in this country and how priceless it is that we can call our souls our own.

We know that this business of having a job goes hand in hand with the question of having a democracy. Without independent workmen, you cannot be independent of the government. If the government gives out all the jobs, the government is going to win all the elections. The first thing Hitler did when he came to power was to get control of the jobs in Germany. Then the rest was easy. And so, we find that a competitive economy goes hand in hand with political democracy and that without these two things you cannot have the greatest of all things—and that is spiritual freedom.

These are some of the objectives for which we must work if we are to be true to these young men whose memories we honor today. We must also realize that our country is existing in a very unstable and

dangerous world, that there are still many places in which the dignity of man and the integrity of the individual are not respected, in which man is seen as the creature of the state and as cannon fodder for dictatorship.

If this nation of ours is to survive and come through the vale of tears through which the world is now traveling, it must be strong. This means the strength which comes from a healthy economic life in which there are jobs and health and opportunity for all. It means the strength which comes from an intelligent foreign policy, which helps foreign nations get self-supporting in return for their giving us some of the things we want. It does not mean wasting money or pouring it down a rat hole. It means the strength which comes from having a strong Army, Navy and Air Force, without which our word is not respected.

Finally, it means the strength which comes from that spiritual and enthusiastic faith in our institutions, which alone can make a country survive.

The greatness of a nation just as the greatness of an individual man rests on the things of the spirit. One of the remarkable things about Americans of French descent is that they have always prized these spiritual and cultural values. Although Americans of French descent have been on this continent for more than three centuries, they have retained their language, their press, their schools and above all their faith. The American of French descent preserves his culture because he has a clear philosophy of life from which he does not deviate. He knows what things are important and what things are trivial. It is appropriate for us this afternoon to reflect that wherever there was fighting in this last war—whether it was in the fields of France and Germany, or in the air over Tokyo, or on the broad Atlantic or Pacific oceans or in the little Islands of the South Seas, there was present a young American fighting man of French descent. The spiritual ideals which animated these young men, contributed to the saving of our country in time of war. These same ideals will preserve and enhance our nation in the days of peace.

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At the end of his eloquent speech, Senator Lodge received an immense ovation, coming especially from the veterans, because he is one of them.

The president then introduced Mr. Norman D. Nault, the architect, and Mr. Joseph A. Coletti, the sculptor, to the enthusiastic crowd. Both men greeted the crowd graciously.

The speaker who followed had left his sick bed in Boston to come to Salem, against the advice of his surgeon. Having been a soldier himself, he would not pass up the opportunity to come be with veterans of an Allied nation on an occasion such as this. Baron Louis de Cabrol, Vice Consul of France in New England, was well known by the people of Salem and was greeted as if he were one of our own veterans. He was one of the most severely wounded, having lost both legs at the front. Attorney Pelletier introduced him as follows:

[Introduction in English] “It is fitting that we should have a representative of the French Republic address us on this occasion. We have with us a man who knows the ravages of war; a real hero and a gentleman, the Vice Consul of France, Baron Louis de Cabrol.”

#### SPEECH OF BARON LOUIS DE CABROL

[Speech begins in French] I consider it an honor and a privilege to have been invited here today to be a part of this dedication and also to pay homage to the veterans of the two World Wars.





*Baron Louis de Cabrol, representative of France, speaking to the crowd on Sunday, October 19, 1947*

[Speech continues in English] There is for me no need to recall why these brave men have fought until the end. They have fought and died to maintain or to regain our freedom. They have fought and died so that we might live in peace. God recalled them before they could accomplish their mission and we failed after World War I to carry it out. Are we going to fail once more? We are still suffering from the terrible consequences of World War II, a ghastly war that has left in its wake grim misery, bitterness, and hatred amongst men and yet once more there are rumors of war. Will the sacrifice of our heroes once more have been in vain so that we could live in peace? I have read in the news yesterday that it was reported that a group coming back from a trip to Europe said that Frenchmen were demoralized, France should help itself before we help her. Now, who of all of us would not be, if our land had been at war three times in the last century, and now having to face the incertitude of the future amongst other hardships. My Compatriots, and believe me they do not lack of courage, but they need your help. I don't like talking about myself but I will say this little anecdote. When I was severely wounded I did not wish to die but I would not have survived should your skillful and kind surgeons with penicillin and surgical equipment that we did not have at the time had not come to my rescue. The message of France which I bring you today is that of sincere gratitude to those to whom this monument has been dedicated and to tell you that we will go on fighting for the good and we will give all our effort to maintain peace and freedom so that the sacrifice of our heroes should not have been in vain.

[Speech ends in French] **LONG LIVE AMERICA AND LONG LIVE FRANCE!!!**

At the end of his speech, the Baron de Cabrol was given an unforgettable ovation. As you can see, his words were few but right to the point, and it was clear he was speaking from the heart. He is a true representative of the French Republic.

Attorney Joseph F. Pelletier then presented the monument as a gift to the City of Salem, saying:

[In French] “Our country has become great and strong because of its belief in tolerance. It was formed by people from nations all over the world. There is no other place on earth where one can find so many foreigners and descendants of foreigners working and fighting together, side by side, in order to maintain a truly democratic society of free men and women. All nationalities have played their part in the establishment of the United States.

As Americans of French descent, we are proud of the contributions that the children of France have made to this country. We could mention Father Marquette and his companions who brought the word of God to the Indians and opened up the vast territories of the Midwest and the Mississippi Valley. Or Lafayette and his brave Army for the assistance they gave to the Colonies in their fight for Freedom.

Americans of French descent have also contributed to the arts, the sciences, and trades. You also saw our sons protecting and defending the Stars and Stripes in every war since the Revolution, true lovers and defenders of democracy. Communism will never enter our ranks.

On behalf of the Laurier Association, I now have the honor of presenting this monument to our beloved City of Salem, that you, Mr. Mayor, represent. May this monument forever recall our devotion, our patriotism, and the sacrifices of Americans of French descent. May it always be an inspiration to the youth of our city and an example of tolerance and equality.”

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#### SPEECH BY MAYOR COFFEY

[Speech in English] On behalf of the City of Salem and the Park Department, I do accept this monument. There was no need of this being erected to portray the patriotism of the Americans of Franco-American origin, but there was a need to rekindle again the patriotism so as to inspire those who will follow afterwards. As Lincoln said at Gettysburg, I doubt whether I can accept anything having to do with those whose life's blood was given in the cause of freedom, but I do accept it with the firm belief that this shaft points to heaven and that the Heaven is ruled by God's direction, symbolizing the goal for which the men of St. Joseph's Parish fought. “Peace under God's direction.” And as I look at the monument, I say it shall not be a monument of tears but rather of prayers for the souls of the departed. It is a story to be told to the world about Americans of Franco-American origin who have been the leaders in giving to the world men and women, whose true goal has been peace. That ought to induce others to follow that leadership, and their motto must be “Peace, peace, peace under the direction of God!!!”

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The ceremony ended with the singing of the national anthem by Miss Lachance, accompanied by the brass band.

Our monument is a magnificent piece of architecture and will always bear witness, for all people of all races and all faiths, to the devotion and patriotism of men and women of Franco-American origin.



The activities of the Laurier Association garnered a lot of attention, even from far off places, as well as a lot of praise, not only in the local press, but also in the *Boston Herald*, the *Boston Post*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Boston Daily Record*, the *Worcester Telegram* and the *New York Times*, as well as several magazines.



*Miss Lorraine Turcotte and the Officers of the Laurier Association*





## EPILOGUE

At the time this book went to press, St. Joseph's Parish of Salem had reached its seventy-fifth anniversary. Actually, having been founded on May 17, 1873, it has made it to a venerable age. Three-quarters of a century have passed since its birth, and reading all that has preceded these final words, you have proof that St. Joseph's parish not only did not waste any time developing, but also that it plans to survive for a long time to come.

On the occasion of this wonderful anniversary, we have the right, now more than ever, to congratulate ourselves for having accomplished so many things in the name of our faith, despite many adversities. Parishioners of St. Joseph's, now is the time to support each other and continue on this noble path. Yes, we have accomplished a lot, but there is still more to do in order to complete our work. We just need some courage, some generosity, some harmony, some know-how, but certainly not any indifference!

Let us make the most of this advantageous situation, let us thank again our friends, even those who do not share all of our views but who know how to sympathize with our challenges and our joys and who know how to support us with their influence, their eloquence, their funds, and—let's say it once and for all—their good examples.

Let us remember our deceased, our pioneers, our heroes. Let us pray to God that their souls rest in peace, let us appreciate as we should the fruits of their labors, let us actively defend the heritage that they have handed down to us.

Let us praise God, especially for this glorious anniversary. May St. Joseph's parish continue to be increasingly more worthy of the favors that heaven bestows upon us!

*Ad multos et faustissimos annos!*

To many more happy years!

